

# Geronimo Stilton

THE GRAPHIC NOVEL



**SLIME FOR DINNER**

with  
Tom Angleberger

story by  
Elisabetta Dami











Dear Mouse Friends,  
Welcome to the world of



Geronimo  
Stilton



# NEW MOUSE CITY





- ① Cheese Factories
- ② Angorat International Airport
- ③ Comic Book Store
- ④ Mouse General Hospital
- ⑤ WRAT Radio & Television Station
- ⑥ Snotnose Castle
- ⑦ Cheese Market
- ⑧ Grand Hotel
- ⑨ Botanical Gardens
- ⑩ Petunia Pretty Paws's House
- ⑪ *The Daily Rat*
- ⑫ *The Rodent's Gazette*
- ⑬ Thea's House
- ⑭ Cheap Junk for Less
- ⑮ Geronimo's House
- ⑯ Benjamin's House
- ⑰ Public Library
- ⑱ Mousidon Square Garden
- ⑲ Hercule Poirat's Office
- ⑳ New Mouse Harbor
- ㉑ Beach
- ㉒ Curlyfur Island Amusement Park
- ㉓ Shipyard
- ㉔ Luna Light House
- ㉕ The Statue of Liberty







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THE GRAPHIC NOVEL

## SLIME FOR DINNER

with Tom Angleberger    story by Elisabetta Dami  
color by Corey Barba



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"National Anthem of the Sewers" adapted and composed by Oscar Angleberger

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## CHAPTER ONE

A

**SURPRISE!**

**PACKAGE!**



Ah...  
What a  
beautiful  
day!



Oh, I forgot to  
introduce myself...  
My name is  
**Stilton...**



**Geronimo  
Stilton!**



I'm the  
publisher of  
**THE RODENT'S  
GAZETTE.**



But, I'm also  
writing a novel.  
Its title will be...

**OUTTA  
THE  
WAY,  
BUB!**



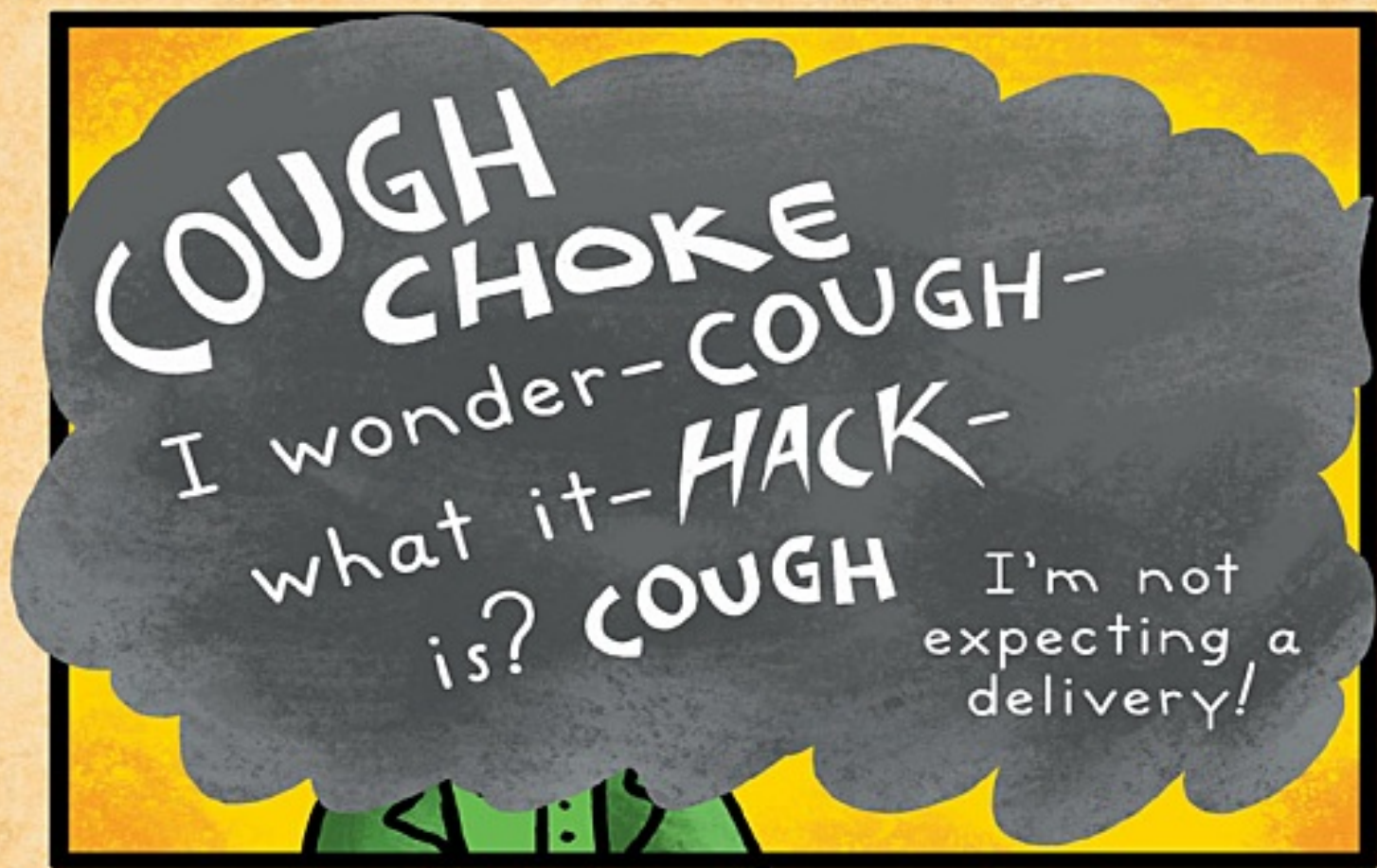
No, that's not the name of my novel!  
That's what a truck driver was yelling!



I gotta get this  
big box to a  
Mr. Stilton down  
at **THE RODENT'S  
GAZETTE**, fast!!!









By the time I got  
to my office, the  
box had been  
delivered.

And my secretary,  
Mousella  
MacMouser,  
was **FRANTIC!**

Mr. Stilton! The  
driver said it's  
a matter of  
life or death!



Don't worry,  
I'm just—  
It's just—



**MOLDY  
MOZZARELLA!**





It...was...  
shaped...like a...

# COFFIN!



And it  
was...

# GIFT WRAPPED!

Well? Aren't  
you going to  
open it,  
Mr. Stilton?



O-o-open  
it???









Another  
box!

And inside  
that was...

And inside  
that was...

And inside  
that was...

I don't have  
time for  
this!

And inside  
that was...

I'm a busy  
mouse!

And inside  
that was...

And inside  
that was...

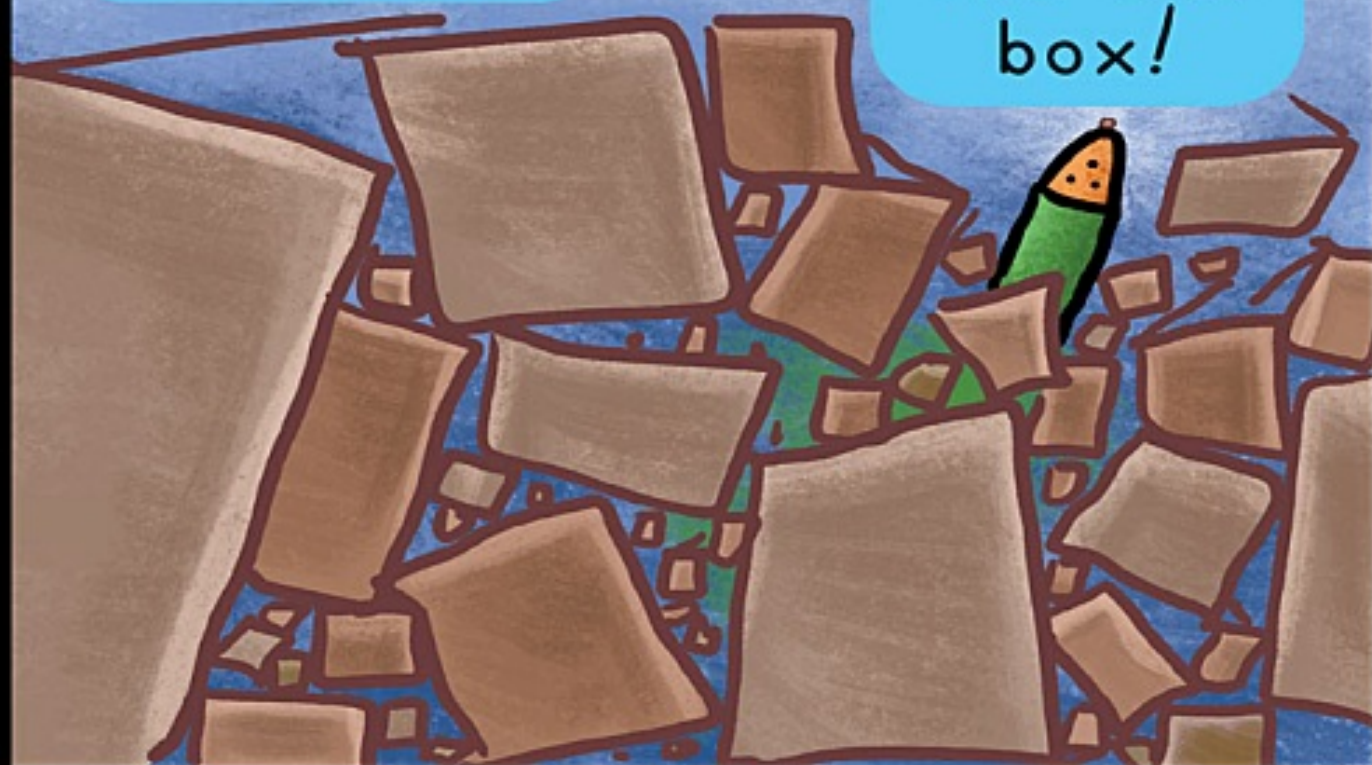
And inside  
that was...

Why  
me?



Hours later...

The last  
box!



Using a  
magnifying glass,  
I pulled out...



a tiny scroll  
of paper!





## CHAPTER TWO

# READY, GERRY?

A mystery dinner?! Sounds fabumouse, Mr. Stilton!



I think it sounds terrible, and I don't even know what it is!





You and a bunch of other mice will try to solve a pretend crime while eating unusual foods!



What kind of weird mouse would do that?



Hey, Gerry Berry!



Just then, my cousin Trap ran in!



Please don't  
call me that.  
My name is  
**Stilton**, Ger—



No time, Cuz!  
We gotta go!  
You're late!



Late for  
what?



For the  
mystery  
dinner!





But, I don't  
want to—



Hey, little  
brother, what's  
the holdup?



C'mon!  
Creepella's  
waiting!

**CREEPELLA?**



Of course!  
Who else would  
invite us to a  
mystery  
dinner at  
Cacklefur  
Castle?



But Creepella's  
so...so...



Sweet?

She sure is! In  
fact, I think she  
has a **CRUSH**  
on you, little  
brother.



I was not going to say **Sweet**,  
I was going to say **SCARY!**  
Creepella loves:



Spiders!



Coffins!



Bats!!!



Bones!



Tombstones!



~~~~~ And

**EXPIRED  
CHEESES!!!**



Aw, Cuz, don't  
be such a  
fraidy-mouse!



You'll never  
win the big  
prize like that.



What  
prize?



Creepella's giving away  
a huge prize to whoever  
solves her mystery!

Probably  
me!



**HOOO!**

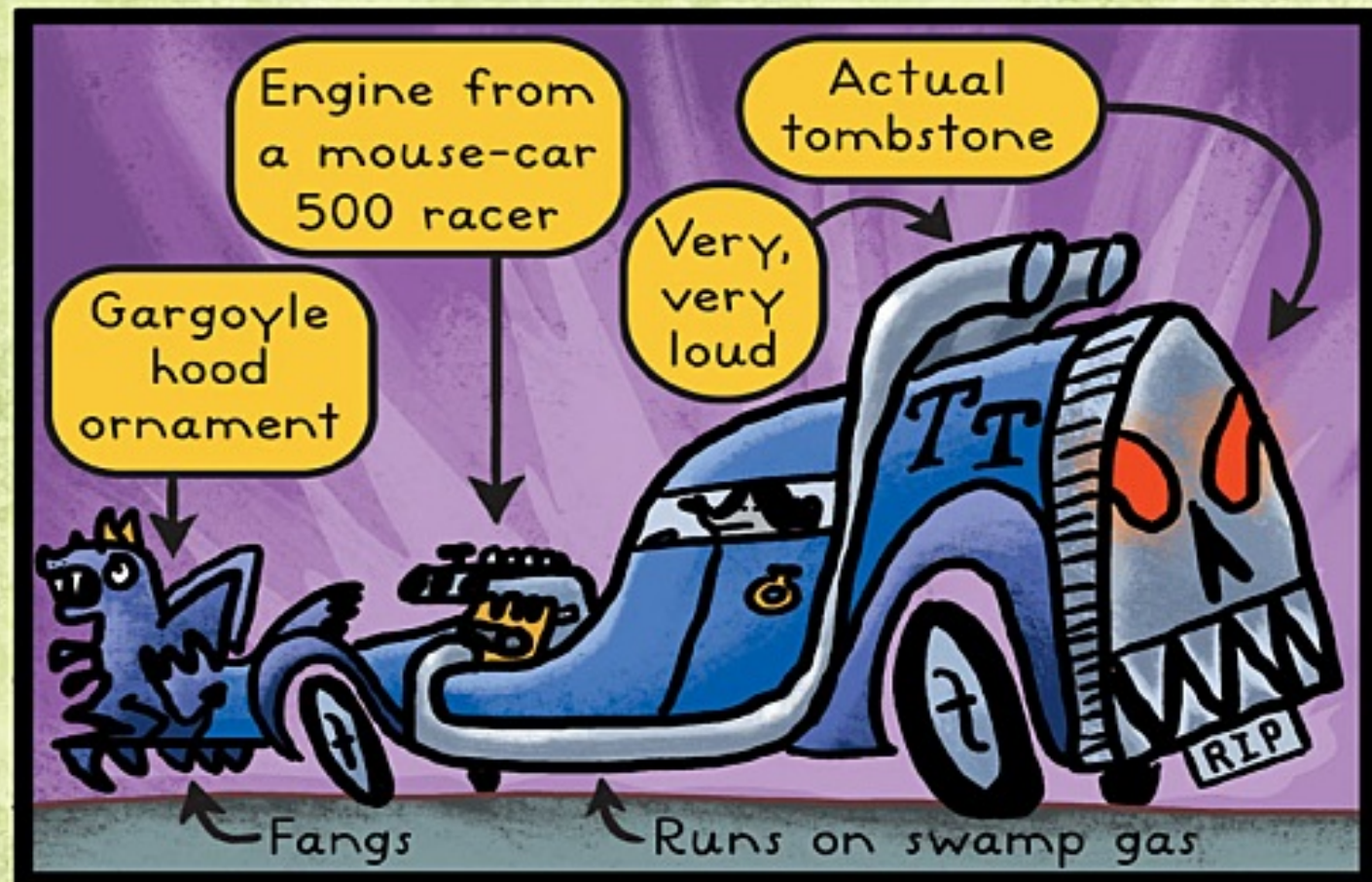
That's  
her!



## CHAPTER THREE

# ENTER CREEPELLA

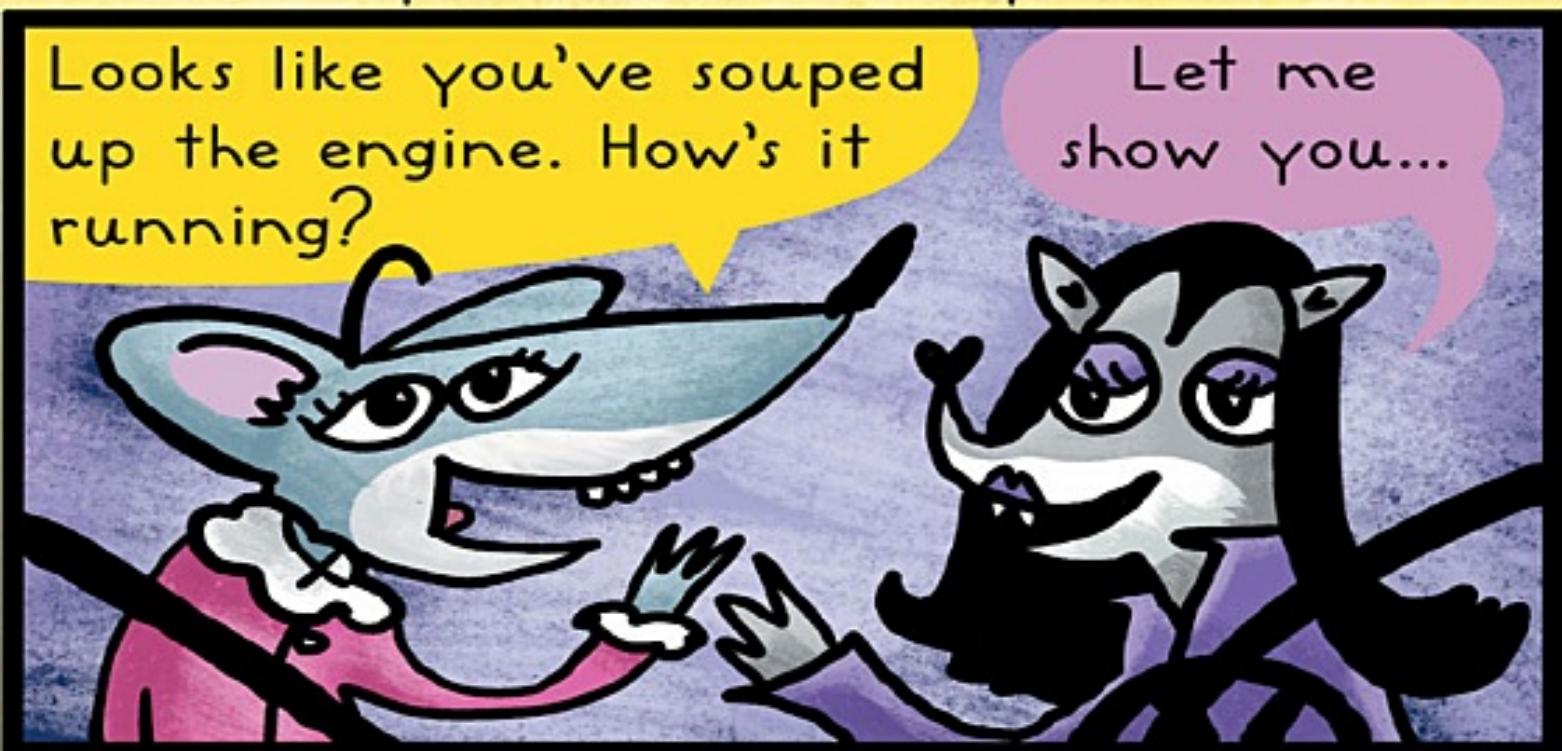
We ran downstairs and saw Creepella waiting for us in her car, the **TURBO-TOMBSTONE!**



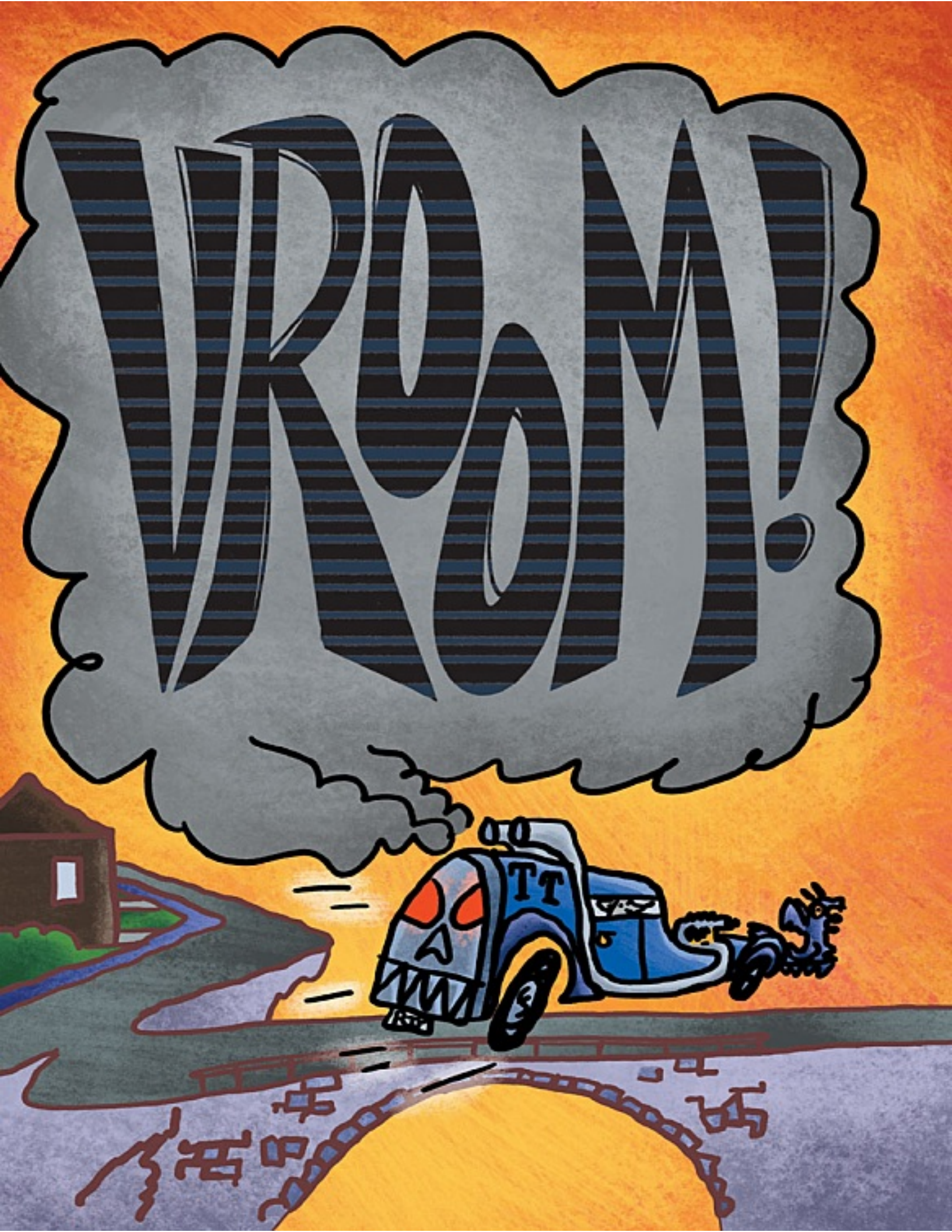




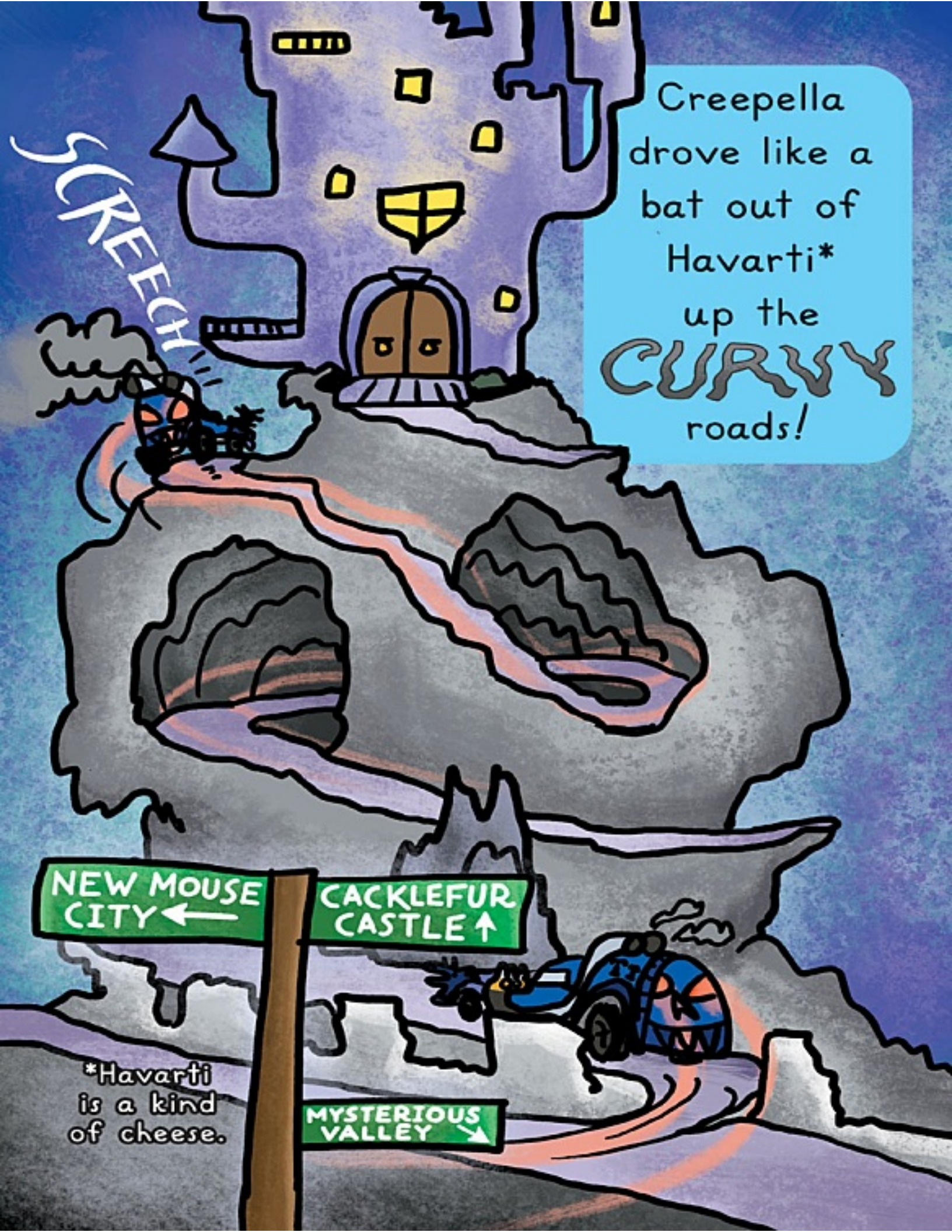
Trap and I tried to squeeze into the back seat while Thea and Creepella chatted up front...











Creepella  
drove like a  
bat out of  
Havarti\*  
up the  
**CURVY**  
roads!

NEW MOUSE  
CITY ←

CACKLEFUR  
CASTLE ↑

MYSTERIOUS  
VALLEY →

\*Havarti  
is a kind  
of cheese.



Creepella drove way too fast  
up the curvy mountain road!

I wanted  
to stop!



I wanted  
to scream!



I wanted  
to...



Creepella...  
please...for  
cheddar's  
sake...just  
**SLOW  
DOWN!**

Sorry, Gerrykins! I want  
to get there before  
moonrise! It'll be a  
**FULL MOON!**

So pretty!





## CHAPTER FOUR

# WELCOME TO CACKLEFUR CASTLE

Somehow, we arrived alive.  
Creepella screeched to a halt,  
and I stumbled out of the car.





I thought Creepella's  
driving was scary...  
But her home was even  
worse. Much worse!





Oh, Gerrykins...  
Isn't it a  
lovely night?

Lovely?!  
More like

**TERRIFYING!**





You're so silly! The scares are all for fun! A mystery dinner is just a game!



Nothing's going to hurt you!

GRRRRRR...

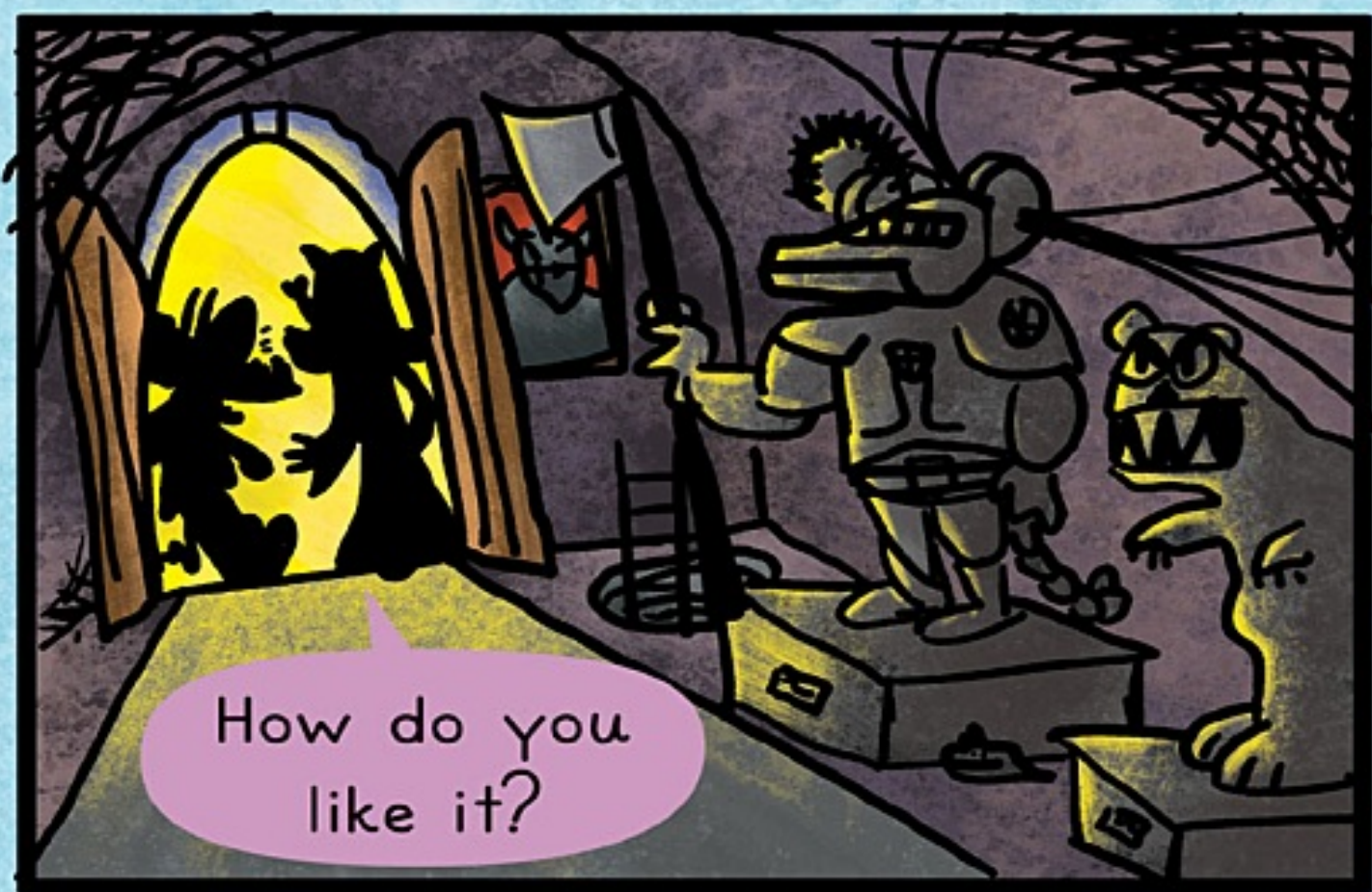




## CHAPTER FIVE

# OH, WHAT A TANGLED WEB

When we got inside, it was even scarier than it had been outside!





Like it?



I hated it!!

It was **SO**  
**CREEPY!**

There were  
scary  
swords...

razor-sharp  
axes...

a golden  
coffin...

drippy  
candles...



...and spiderwebs  
everywhere!



I tried to offer some helpful advice...

Maybe we should clean up some of these webs before the dinner...





Oh no! You've  
offended *Lady  
Silken-Smythe!*



I offended  
HER?



Yes! She's worked very hard  
making fresh webs for  
tonight's big event!





Oh dear!  
She's  
scuttling  
off to  
her little  
closet!

scuttle  
scuttle

You'll  
have to  
send her  
a letter  
of  
apology!

**SLAM**



Me? Apologize  
to her? Look at  
my paw!!!



Don't worry!  
It's only a  
mild **Poison!**



You'll need to stop being so  
fussy if you want to go to

**TRANSRATANIA**

with me!





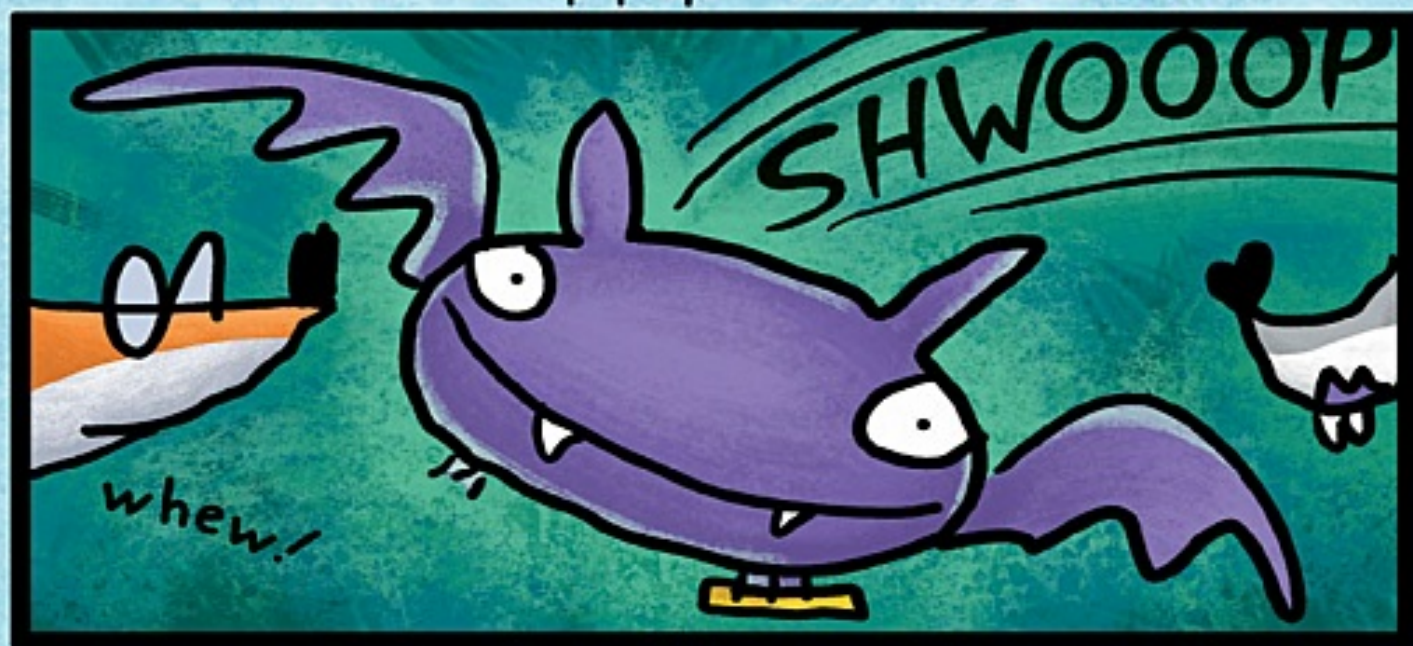
Yes! That's the prize tonight!  
Whoever is **BRAVE**, **DARING**,  
and **CLEVER** enough to solve  
the mystery will go with  
me to explore

**TRANSRATANIA!**

I hope it's you,  
Gerry, because—



Just then, a huge **BAT** swooped  
in! It was Creepella's pet,  
Bitewing. And for once,  
I was happy to see him!





## CHAPTER SIX

# WHISKER-LICKIN' GOOOOOD!

Bitewing had brought  
Creepella a note...





BOFFO  
FLAMBÉ?  
The famouse  
TV chef?



Yes! Our chef,  
Giuseppe, is on  
vacation, so  
Boffo offered  
to cook!



I was glad!  
Giuseppe's food  
is always so

**GROSS!**

Example:  
fungus and dumplings  
in mold sauce.



But Boffo's  
food always  
looked great  
on TV...





But it didn't look so good when we got to the kitchen! In fact, it looked like

**SLIME!**



Tonight's menu is all  
**TRANSRATANIAN**  
food!!



I want to  
prove I am  
the best one  
to go on the  
trip with you,  
**CREEPELLA!**







It's toad  
slime!!! Don't  
you think  
Creepella will  
love it?



It was SO gross,  
that I could  
honestly reply:

Very  
likely.



That made Boffo very  
happy and Trap mad...

If anyone is  
going to impress  
Creepella tonight,  
it'll be me!



YOU?!?!?

HA!









# CRUSTY MUENSTER MCCLUMPS!

WHY  
ME?



\*Muenster is a kind of cheese.



I was mad! I was angry!

I was covered in

**SLIME**

from head to tail!

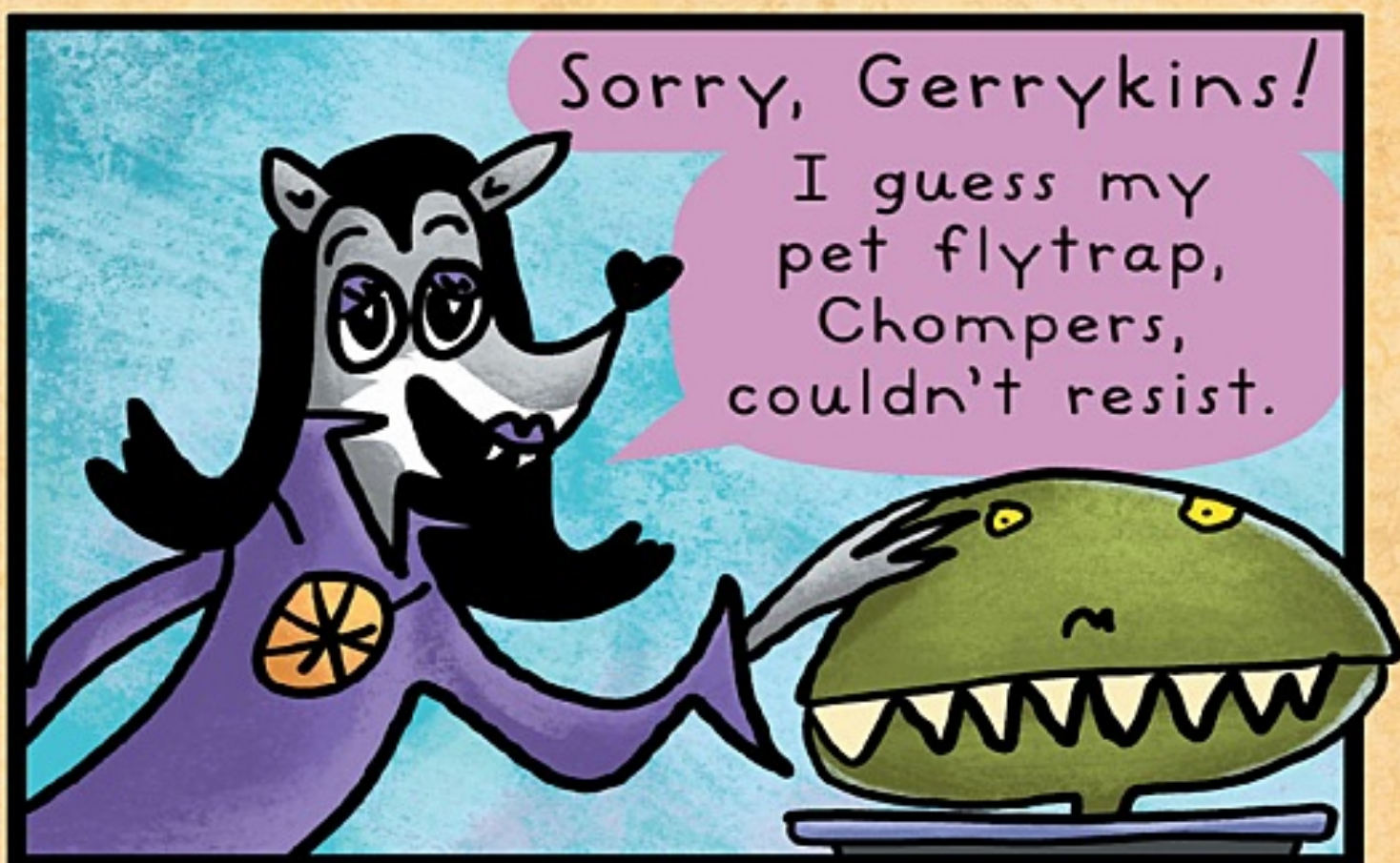


Then it got worse!!!

**CHOMP**









I'm going home to take a shower!



Oh no! Don't do that, Gerrykins! It'll ruin my mystery dinner!



I CAN'T GO ON LIKE THIS!



Who?

I know! You can shower here! I'll have Snip + Snap show you the way!





## CHAPTER SEVEN

# NOT AS *Sweet* AS THEY LOOK!

Creepella called her nephews Snip + Snap to show me the way to the shower.

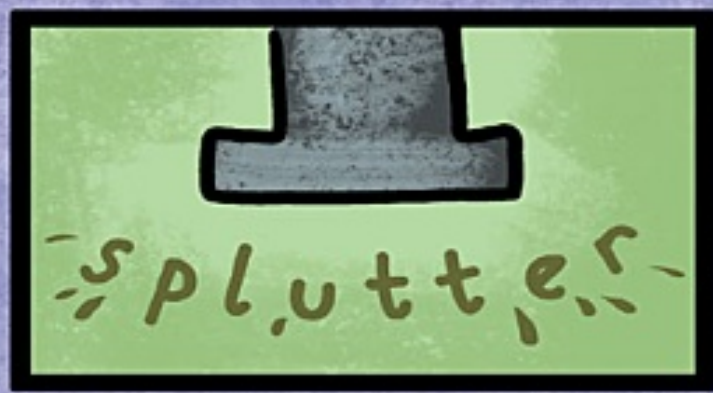




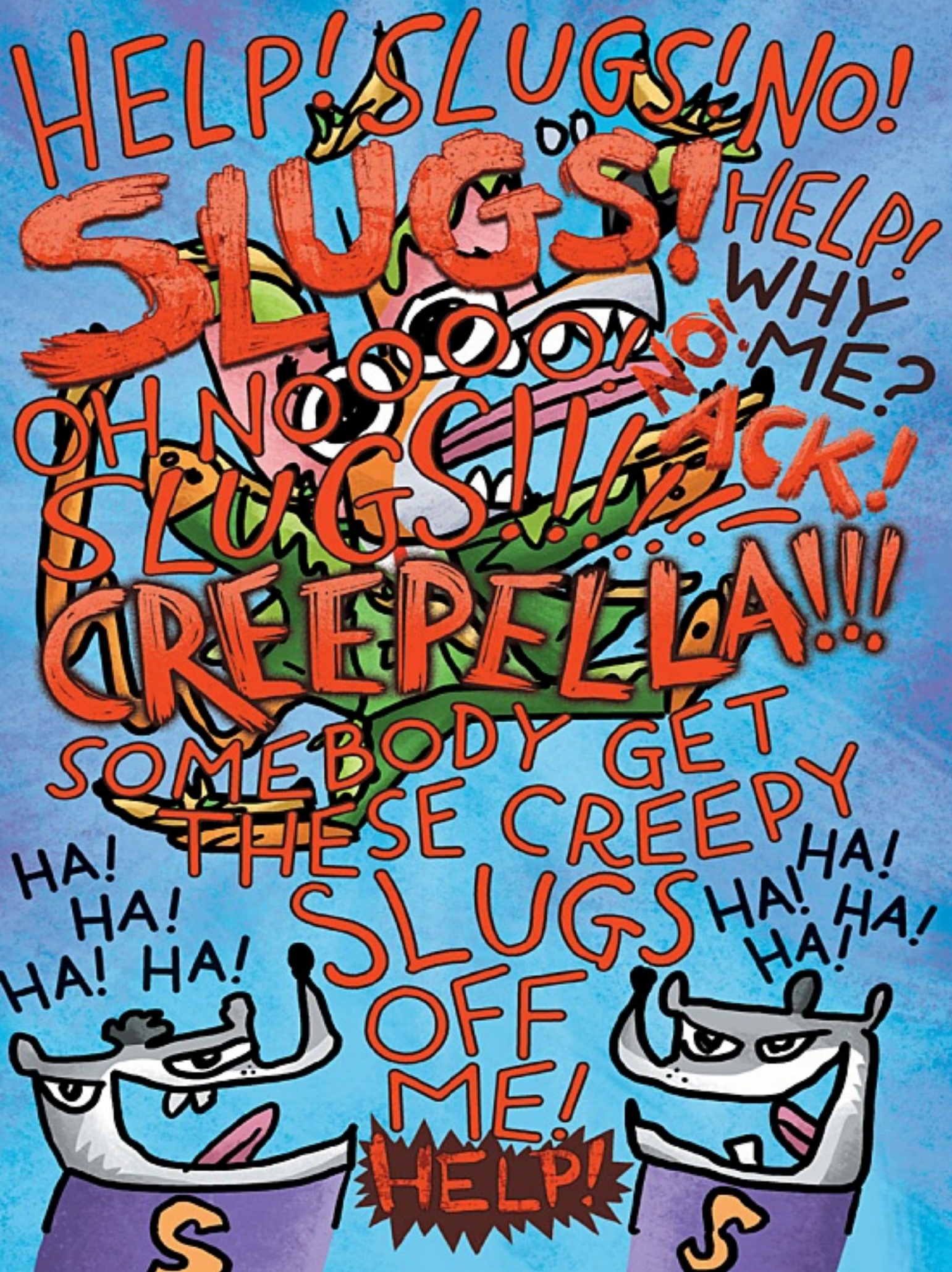
Creepella's adorable nephews led me through a door into a garden...













What's going on here?



Are you okay, lil' brother?



H'YUK!

It's the best prank I ever saw...a slug shower!

Great work, boys!





Tut, tut... How can  
a grown mouse be  
so worked up about  
a few werewolf  
slugs?

**WERE  
WOLF  
SLUGS?!?!**



Everyone knows  
they're harmless  
unless it's

**MIDNIGHT**  
during a  
**FULL MOON!**

But... but...

**TONIGHT  
IS A FULL  
MOON!**





Don't worry, I'm sure the boys will have all the slugs back in their cages by midnight...

Right, boys?

Oh, of course, Auntie dear!



Now, Gerry, you really must get cleaned up!  
The mystery dinner starts soon!

You look  
**AWFUL**,  
and not in  
a good way.





## CHAPTER EIGHT

# INSULT AND INJURY

Creepella said that since her grandfather had already gone to bed, I could use his bathtub...

It was **CREEPY**,  
but at least I could get **CLEAN**.





By the time I got dressed,  
another guest had arrived...

Look! It's  
Rattata  
di Snobizzi,  
the famous  
**MYSTERY  
NOVELIST!**



Yoo-hoo,

Creepella!

I've come to  
solve your  
mystery game  
with my  
amazing  
cleverness!









I suppose you  
want an  
autograph...  
Oh well, if  
I must...

Rattala  
di Snobizzi

My shirt! It's—

Now very  
valuable!





I suppose the  
rest of you all  
want my  
autograph, too?



If I  
must...



Hold  
still!





I know you! You're  
**GERINKYDINK STINKTON!**

I bet you want to interview me  
for that silly  
newspaper!



I was about  
to tell her  
what I really  
wanted to do,  
when...





## CHAPTER NINE

# ANOTHER HOTSHOT

Everyone, meet our  
final guest, star of  
the Gloomies  
basketball team...



**PERRY  
MISCUS!**





Creepella...  
I made that  
perfect shot  
to prove I'll  
be the  
perfect  
teammate  
on our trip!



That "perfect"  
shot hit me on  
the head!



Yeah, like  
I said:

It was  
**PERFECT!**





I demand  
an apolo—



Sorry, Cuz,  
that was  
my bad.

H'Yuk!

Say, that Perry  
is pretty cool,  
huh?

I'm really  
going to  
have to work hard  
to stay ahead!





## CHAPTER TEN

THE



# OFFICIAL RULES



Just then, a coffin clock opened up, and a *SLUG* came out!





Eight o'clock!

Time for dinner!



Let the **MYSTERY** begin!



Uh... It will be over by midnight, right?



You just can't wait to win the prize, can you?





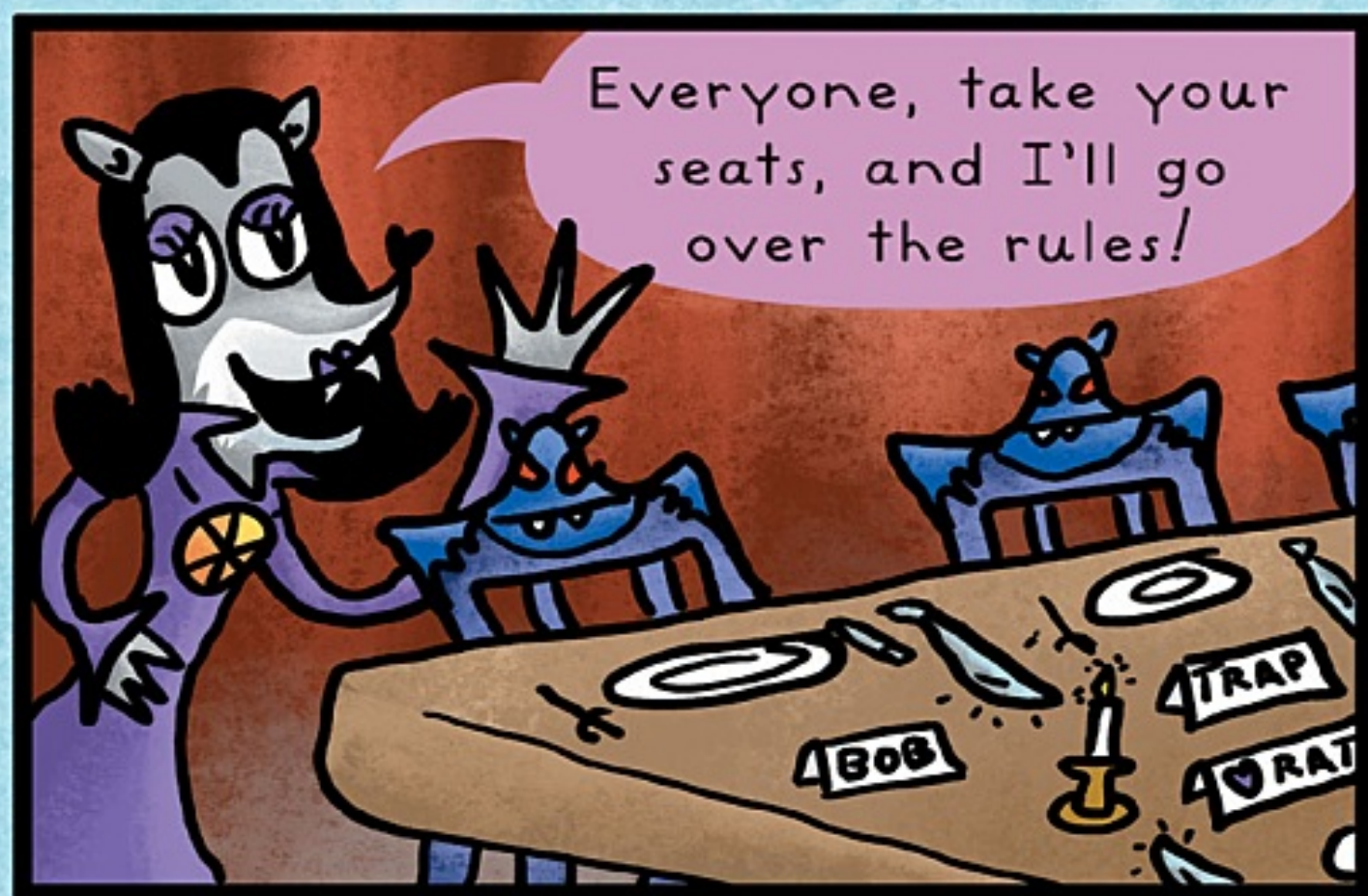
Well, I have it right here!

Two tickets to  
**TRANSRATANIA!**

One for me and  
one for... **who?**









# CREEPELLA'S MYSTERY DINNER RULES



## CREEPELLA'S FIRST-EVER MYSTERY DINNER *Official Rules and Guidelines*

A puzzling crime has been made up for you to have FUN solving while eating fine foods!

1. Something has been "STOLEN."  
(Remember, it's not really stolen, but all be pretending it was stolen.)
2. A chain of CLUES will help you find out what was stolen and where it has been hidden!
3. The rodent who recovers the "stolen" object WINS!
4. You're NOT allowed to ask ANY of the CACKLEFUR CASTLE ghosts for help!



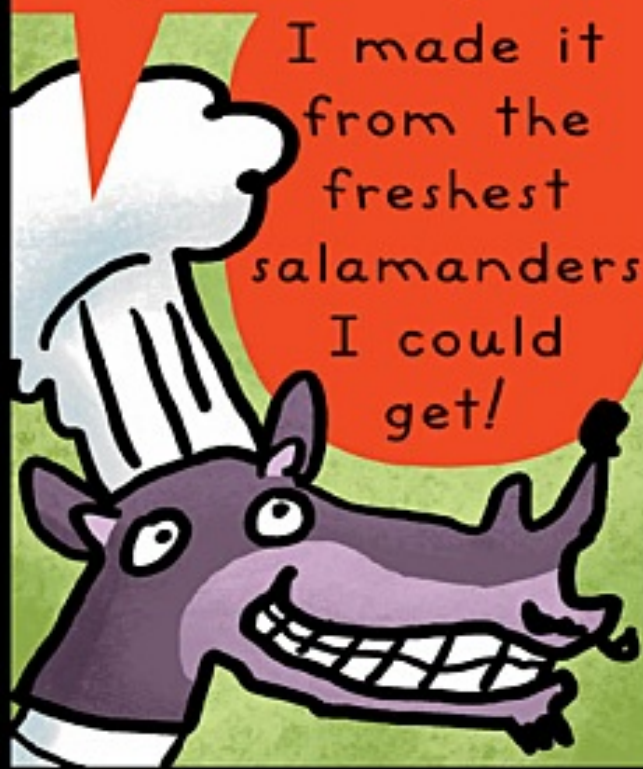
The first clue is...  
written at the  
bottom of your  
soup bowl!

Eat fast to  
be the first  
to read it!



Enjoy, everyone!

I made it  
from the  
freshest  
salamanders  
I could  
get!

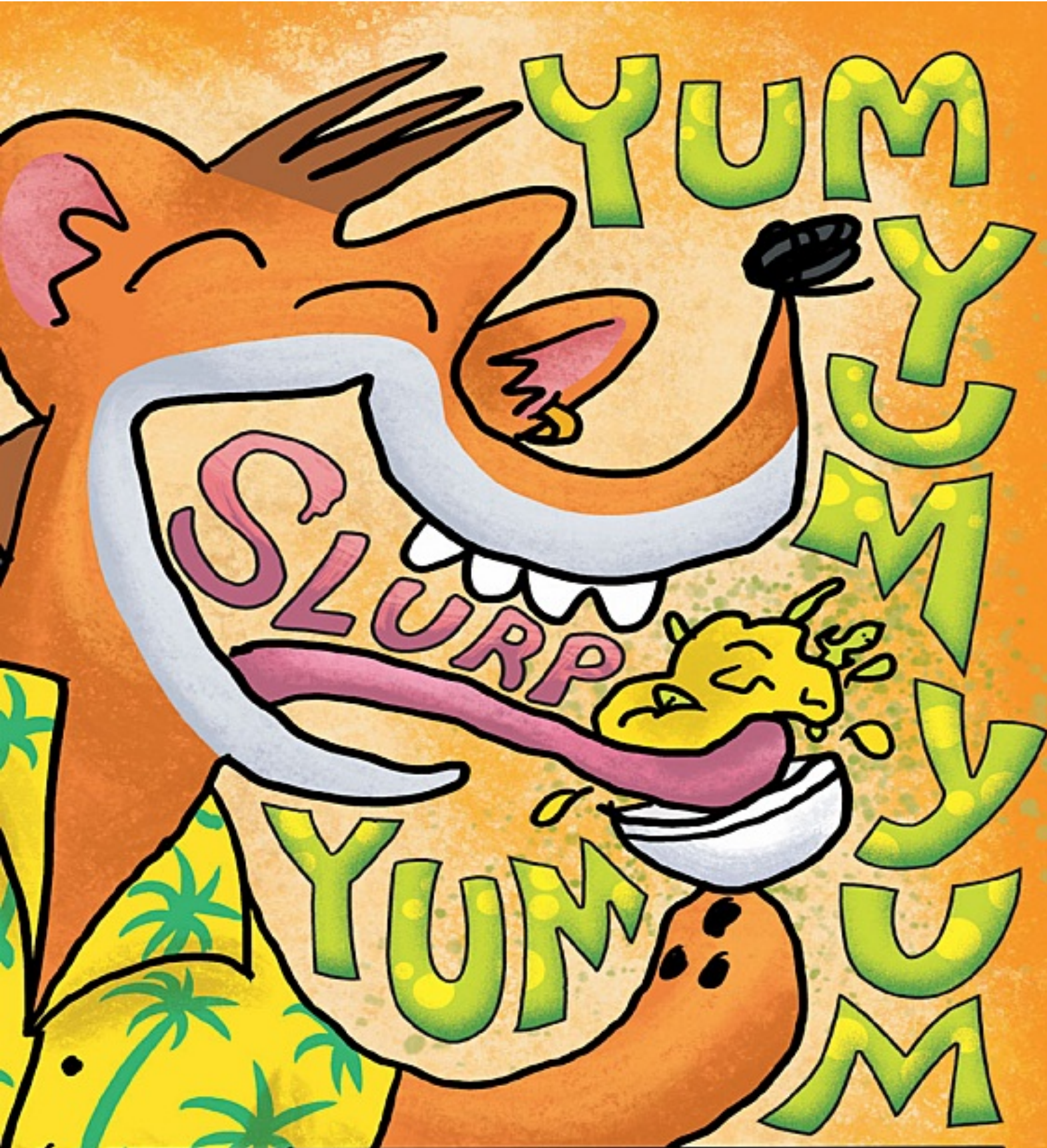


It smells like  
**SKUNK SQUIRTS!**

Who could  
possibly eat  
this!?!?







I had thought the soup was the grossest thing ever... NO. Trap's soupy belch was! So let's move on to the next chapter!!!



## CHAPTER ELEVEN

# THE FIRST CLUE!

After his **REVOLTING** belch,  
Trap actually asked for more!

But before Boffo  
could refill the bowl,  
I looked at the  
bottom and read:

VERY OLD  
SOLID GOLD  
A CREEPY BOX  
THAT NEEDS NO  
LOCKS...  
**STOLEN!**





Well?  
Did the clue  
help you notice  
what's missing?



Uh...



I looked around the room for all the  
creepy stuff I had seen earlier...



Sword



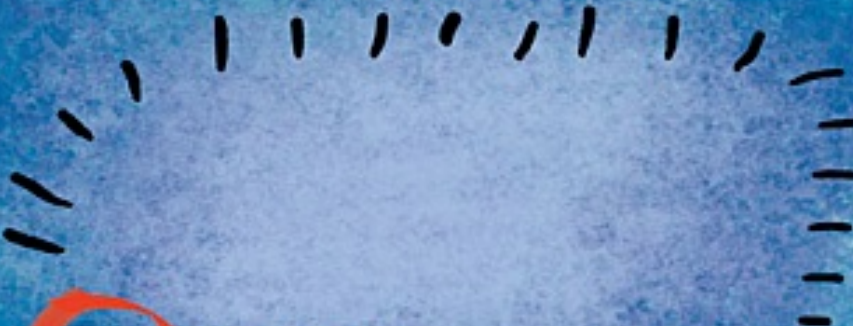
Ax



Webs



Candles



Coffin



Of course! The coffin!  
It's creepy, old, and gold!  
And now it's **MISSING!**



Oh, Gerry!  
I knew you  
could do it!



≡WHISPER≡

I'm rooting for  
you to win!





Well, Stinkton, if you're so smart,  
tell us where it is now...



It's a  
mystery  
to me...



Exactly!  
So let's continue  
our mystery  
dinner and get  
another  
clue!





## CHAPTER TWELVE

# THE SECOND CLUE!

We all sat down again, and Boffo served his next course...





# RUNNY ROQUEFORT!

It's REVOLTIN'!



\*Roquefort is a kind of cheese.

It was  
WORMY!



It was  
SQUIRMY!



It was  
something no  
sane mouse  
would even  
touch!









Mine looks  
like a W, and  
yours is an S.



And Perry's  
is a K, and...



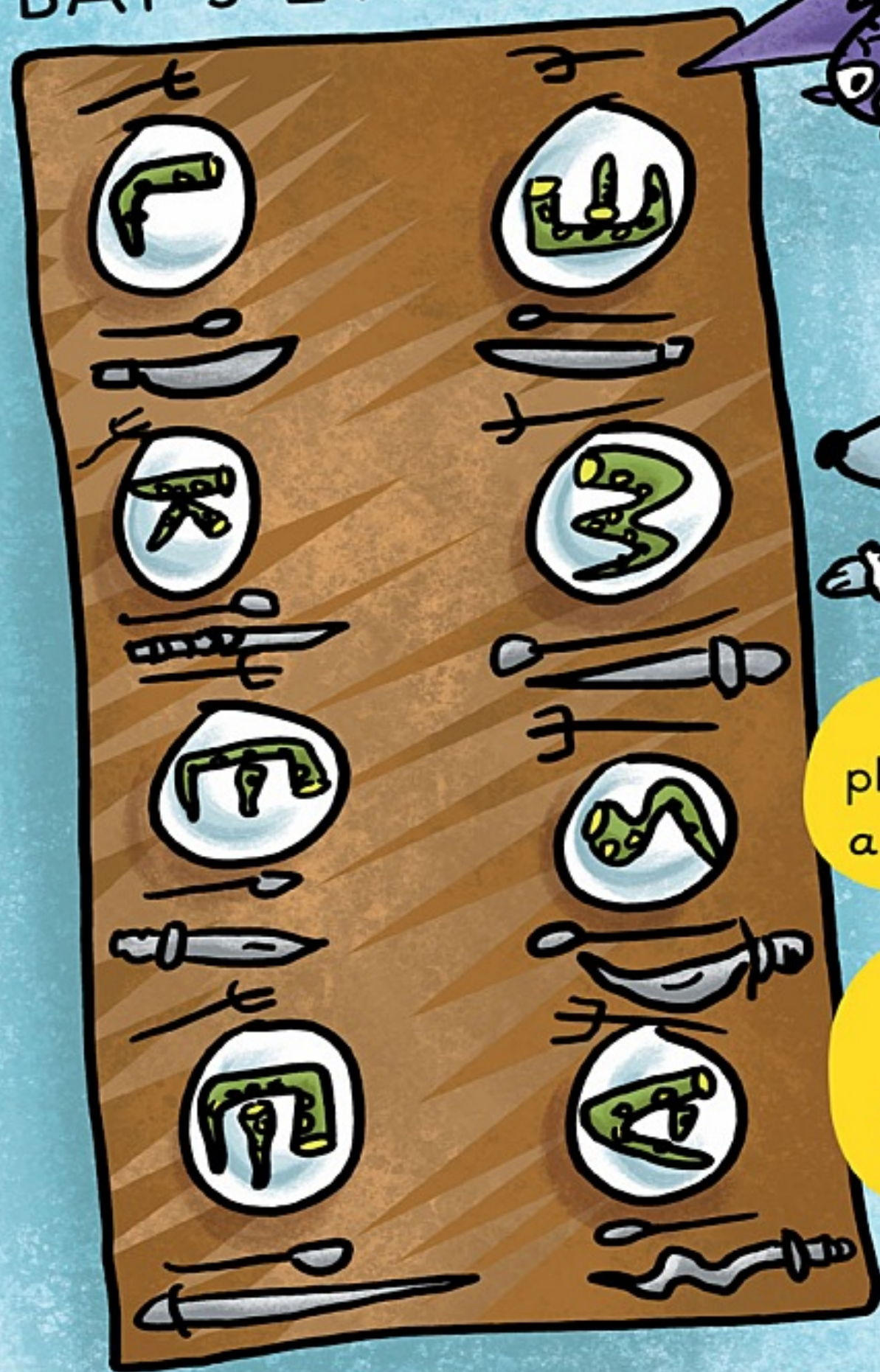
**STOP!**

Everybody,  
stop eating  
and look  
at your  
plate!!!





# BAT'S-EYE VIEW



Each  
plate has  
a letter!

The  
food  
is the  
clue!



What about  
our plates?

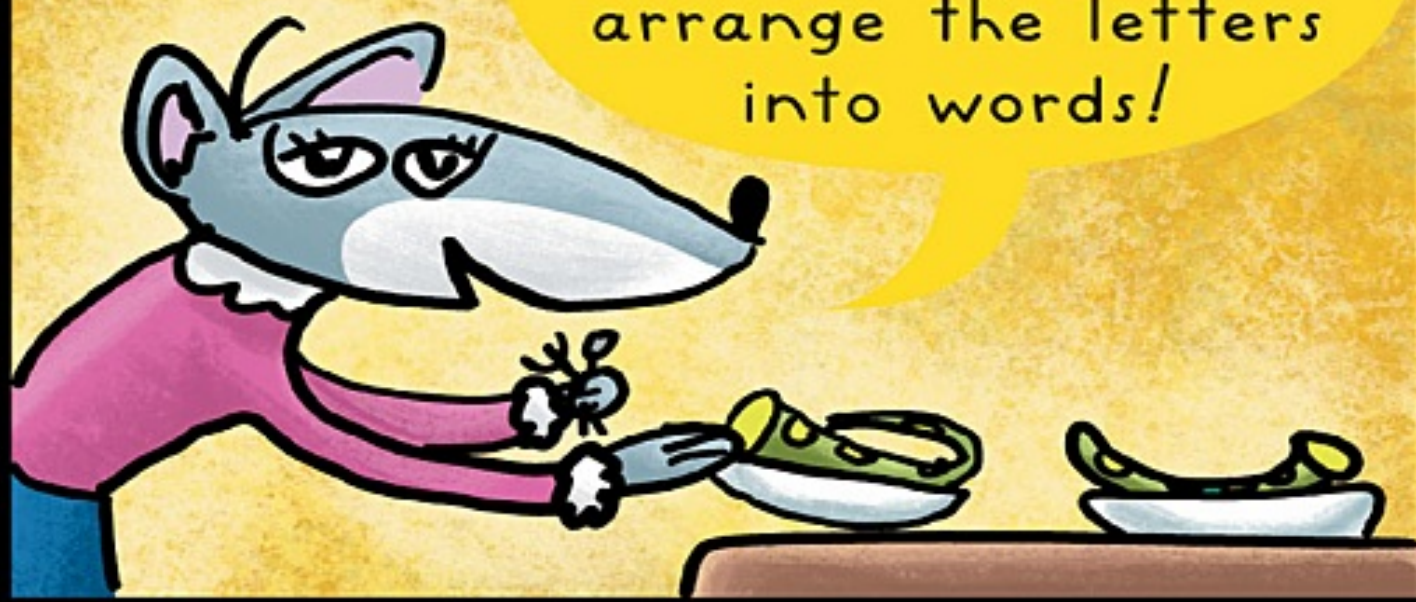
Ours are a  
*P* and an *E*!

KIDS'  
TABLE →



Bring them  
over!

Let's clear away the  
silverware so we can  
arrange the letters  
into words!







"EW, PEE  
LEAKS?"

What kind of  
clue is that?





That is  
not  
the clue!



Thank  
goodness!  
I had enough  
of that in my  
last book!



But the letters  
don't really  
spell anything  
else!



We must be  
missing  
something!  
But  
what?

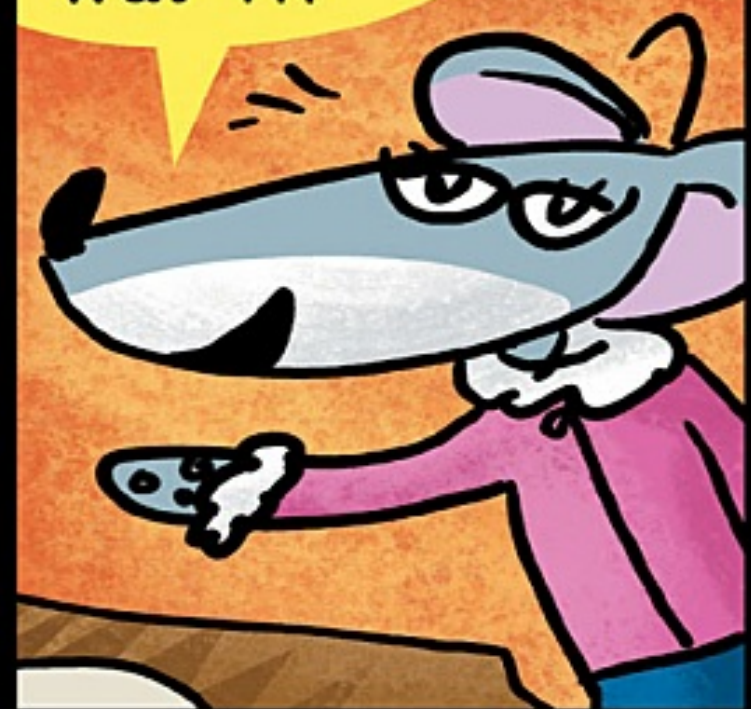




H'yuk, h'yuk!  
You're missing  
the one I ate!



Of course!  
What shape  
was it?



Uh...  
Kraken-  
shaped?



No, it was  
an *R*, as in  
*Rattata*!







Okay, let's  
shuffle these  
around and see  
what they spell  
now!

R

Pssst... see if you can figure it  
out before the next page!



# WAKE SLEEPER

You did it!

Great work,  
Thea!

Thanks, but...  
I don't know  
what that means!



I think  
I do!





## CHAPTER THIRTEEN

# WAKING UP THE Sleeper

I remembered that Creepella's grandpa had already gone to bed.

Maybe if we wake him up, he can tell us more about the golden coffin?

Great idea!

We'll take you to his room!





When we got to his room,  
I could hear him snoring,  
but I couldn't see a thing!



Maybe you should  
flip on the light  
switch!



Oh... Thank  
you, Snip.

I'm Snap!

Oh...  
Sorry.









I was  
**TERRIFIED!**

I was  
**PETRIFIED!**



I was...  
wondering  
why Snip and  
Snap were  
laughing!

**HA HA!**

Hee hee!

Ha ha ha!

Did you see  
his face?

Hee  
hee!

What a  
scaredy-  
mouse!

Yuk yuk!

#wimp!

We got  
him  
good!

Let's tell  
Trap!









## CHAPTER FOURTEEN

# THE GOLDEN COFFIN

Victor Von Cacklefur stomped to the dining room and, I am happy to say, ate my leftovers...

So... you folks want to know about the golden coffin?





The legend begins  
with Cacklefur  
Castle's famous

# "WAR OF THE GHOSTS"



It was a prank battle that  
got way out of control!





Ghost  
pranks!

Sounds awesome,  
huh, Gerry B?



It did not sound  
awesome! Ghosts  
and pranks are  
two of my top  
five least  
favorite things!

### My least favorite things:

1. Pranks



2. Ghosts



3. Folk music



4. Bad smells



5. Lima beans





The "War of the Ghosts" finally ended when my great-great-great-grandfather...



Wrote a folk song that made all the ghosts friends again!



GROANNN!





The ghosts were so grateful that they made a solid gold coffin for him as a thank-you gift...



Hmm... Something about this story doesn't sound right...



Probably the folk music!





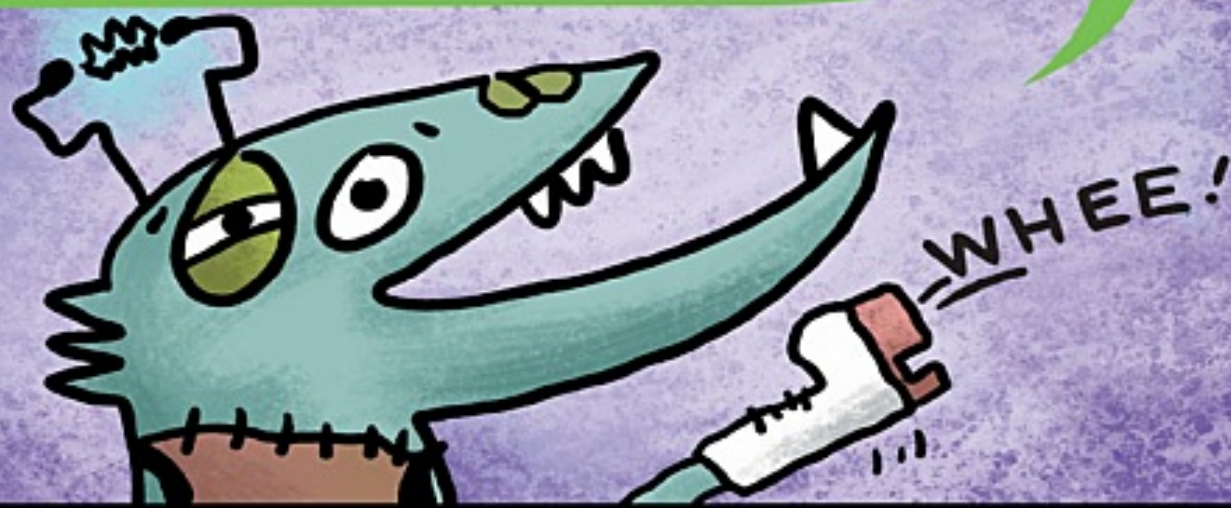
Somehow, over the years,  
the coffin was lost!

Until, in 1978, I found  
it in an antique store  
while shopping for

**DiSC**   
**BOOTS!**



I bought the coffin (and  
the boots), and thus was  
the gold coffin returned  
to Cacklefur Castle!





Ever since then, the golden coffin has been Cacklefur Castle's greatest treasure.

(The boots are a close second.)



Until tonight, when the coffin was "stolen."



What a sad story!



Oh, boo hoo...  
boo hoo hoo...

**HONK!**



Trap! It's all  
made up for the  
mystery dinner,  
remember?



Oh, yeah, right,  
I— **SNiFF** —knew  
that!





The next clue will help you find out where the golden coffin is now!

Boffo, please serve the main course!



Just a moment while I bring it up from the dungeon, my darling!



What kind of disgusting food is kept in a dungeon?





## CHAPTER FIFTEEN

# MYSTERY GIBBLETs

We took our seats while we waited for Boffo. Unfortunately, I had to sit next to *Rattata*.





No! I'm the publisher!  
I'm also a reporter,  
editor, and novelist!



You are  
writing a  
novel?  
How cute.  
What's it  
called?



The name of  
my novel is—



HOT  
CHUNKS  
OF  
MYSTERY  
GIBLETS  
ON A  
STICK!



NO! That's  
not the name  
of my novel!

It's what Boffo  
had dragged out  
of the dungeon!



It was hot. And  
it was on a stick.  
But if it was a  
clue, I couldn't  
figure it out!





Trap ate his  
in one gulp!



Was there a  
clue inside of  
that?



If there was,  
it sure was  
**YUMMY!**





Pssst... Thea...  
was there a  
clue in yours?



I don't know. It  
was so gross I  
fed it to the  
**GIANT ROACH**  
under the table.



There's a giant  
roach under the  
table?!?!?



Not anymore.  
After one bite,  
it went home  
sick...







...So, I put the rest of it  
in your **COAT** pocket.

**STINK!**

Why me? How did a nice  
**mouse** like me end up with a  
**POCKET** full of **HOT** giblets—  
which are probably covered in  
cockroach slobber — while  
stuck in a **CASTLE** with  
**WEREWOLF SLUGS** on the  
night of a **FULL MOON???**



To escape, I had to solve the mystery! To do that, I had to get the next clue! To do that, I had to...







How do you like the "hot chunks"?  
Filled with the hottest sauce  
on Mouse Island!





In the name of  
pepper jack\*,  
somebody give me a  
drink!

\*Pepper jack is a kind of spicy cheese.





I give up! I can't find the next clue!

MOAT  
SLIME

Oh, sorry!

I forgot to mention...

This clue isn't in the food. It's in the entertainment!

Ready or not... here I come!



## CHAPTER SIXTEEN

# YOU WILL DIE (LAUGHING)

Suddenly, Creepella's father,  
Baron Boris Von Cacklefur, ran in...

Good evening,  
rodents!

I'd like to  
welcome you  
to a "bury"  
special night  
at the castle!  
Ha! Ha! Ha!





Was that you  
**BOOO**ing,  
or was it the  
castle ghosts?  
Ha! Ha! Ha!  
But seriously,  
folks...



This is a  
**GRAVE**  
matter...

You could

**DIE**

laughing!

Can you

**DIG** it?





Boris's jokes were  
too **CORNY**, too **CREEPY**,  
and way too **LONG**.

So then the zombie says to the ghou, "Musicals? I thought you said mouse skulls?" And the ghou says, "I did, it's called *Mouse Skulls: The Musical*." So the zombie says, "How much do tickets cost?" and the other ghou says, "The price is your immortal soul, or twelve bucks if it's a matinee." "I can't come to the matinee," said the zombie. "Why not?" said the ghou. So the zombie says... "I'm dating a vampire." Ha ha ha! Get it? Because vampires only come out at night and matinees are in the afternoon? Get it? Hilarious, huh? Ha ha ha! Okay, stop me if you've heard this one, a squid and a mollyhatter crawl into a graveyard...



Of course, Trap  
thought they  
were hilarious!



I thought  
they were in  
bad taste...



Almost as bad  
as the food!



And finally, I've  
got a riddle for  
you: What kind  
of clock has no  
hands?



The answer  
is—



AAUGH  
HHHHHHHHH...





P.U., Gerry, you  
should at least  
say "excuse me"!



But...

...I didn't...  
It wasn't...  
...I never...  
Not me!



It's okay,  
Gerrykins!  
That was just  
Daddy's final  
joke!



So... can you  
solve the riddle  
he left? It's the  
next clue!

WHAT KIND  
OF  
CLOCK  
HAS NO  
HANDS?





## CHAPTER SEVENTEEN

# IT'S GETTING **LATE!**

Everybody tried guessing  
the answer to the riddle...





Hmmm... A broken clock...  
Maybe this one's broken.



Ten o'clock?

**RANCID  
RICOTTA!**

Thea, solve the  
mystery so we can  
get outta here!

Okay...





A clock with  
no hands is a  
sundial!



Sundials use  
shadows to point  
to the correct  
time.



Earlier, I noticed  
one in the castle  
garden. I bet the  
next clue is  
there!



Well done, Thea!  
Follow me to  
the garden,  
everyone!



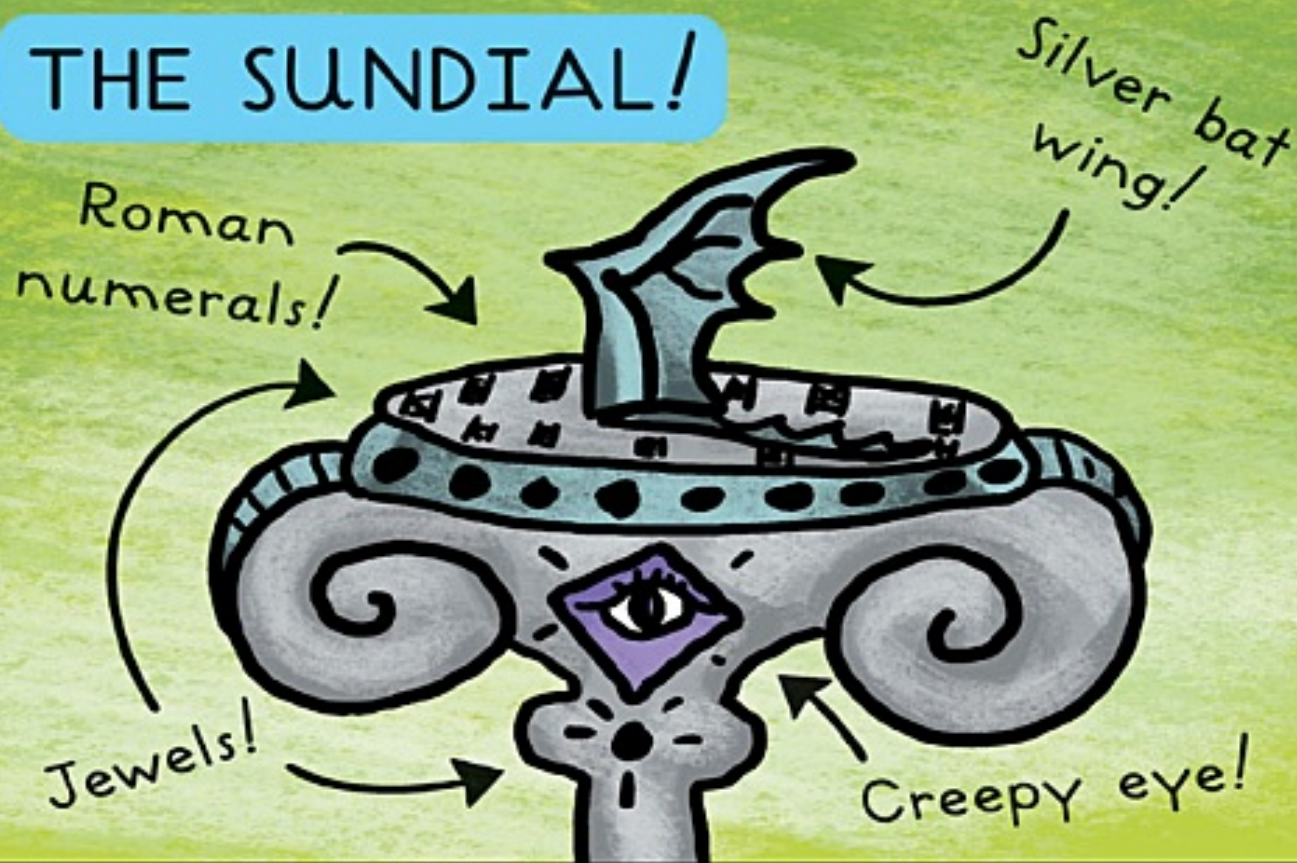


## CHAPTER EIGHTEEN

# GO AHEAD, SCAREDY-MOUSE!

We followed Creepella through about a mile of creepy halls and secret passages to the garden.

### THE SUNDIAL!





But how  
can a  
sundial  
work at  
night?

MOONLIGHT,  
of course!



It's really a  
moondial!

Well,  
look!



The moondial is pointing  
at that crack in the wall...



You found the next clue!  
Just reach in and grab it!

Reach  
in?!?

ME?!?

Of course! It  
must be you!  
You found it!

But... But...  
what if there's  
a werewolf  
slug in there?



Don't be silly!  
Snip + Snap put  
the slugs away.  
Right, boys?



Oh yes,  
Auntie!



Go ahead,  
scaredy-mouse!  
Do it!

My food is  
waiting!

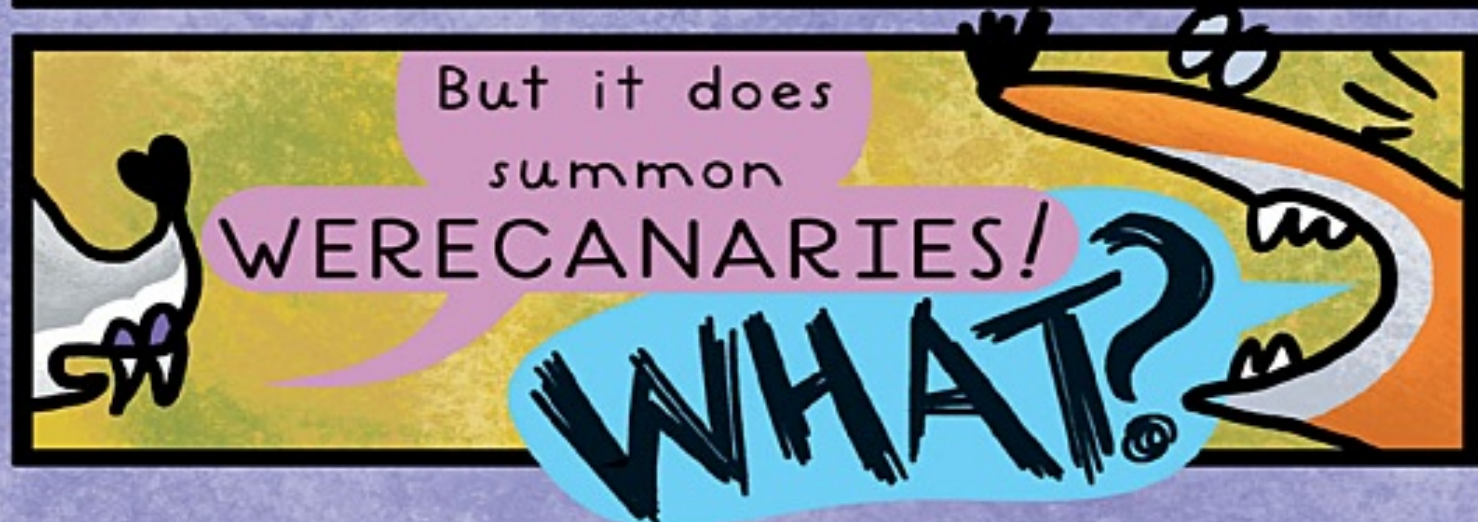
It is  
getting  
late!



I closed my eyes, reaching into the creepy  
crevice, and felt something cold and metal...



I pulled out the ugliest bell in the world!





## CHAPTER NINETEEN

# THE Sweet, Sad Song OF THE WERECANARY

A **HORRIFYING** bird-thing  
swooped out of the dark!!





# PUTRID PARMESAN!

IT'S ON  
MY HEAD!

\*Parmesan is a type  
of... Oh, never mind!



Relax!  
Caruso lives in  
the hair of our  
housekeeper,  
**MADAME  
LATOMB.**  
They will now  
sing the next  
clue...





Normal canaries go

**TWEET+ CHEEP,**

My **WERECANARY**

will make you **WEEP!**

**GLOOM GLOOM**

Guests of the castle, ye are a'failin'  
And that has set my bird a'wailin'!

**WALL WALL**





The coffin is lost. Cannot be found!  
And all you did was goof around!

**GLOOM GLOOM**

My canary's song is full of woe  
Because all of you are so slow!

**WOE! WOE!**

While you ate, it grew late!  
And soon the clock will tell your fate!

**DOOM! DOOM!**

It's so...  
so... **SAD!**











My name is Werecanary, and I'm here to say:  
Solve this mystery without delay!  
To find the coffin, search these halls  
for a vault with SILKY WALLS.  
Inside the vault, you'll find a spinner  
who holds the next clue for the  
MYSTERY DINNER!





We don't get this clue, either!

WAH!!!



Just then, the  
clock ~~struck~~  
HOWLED 10:30!

AWOO!  
AWOO!  
AWOO!  
AWOO!  
AWOO!  
AWOO!  
AWOO!  
AWOO!  
THURRTY



Thea! You've  
got to solve this  
thing and get us  
OUT OF HERE!





## CHAPTER TWENTY

# A WEB OF CLUES

As Creepella led us back to the dining room, Thea told me:





The clue clearly points to Lady Silken-Smythe, the spider. But I don't know where she is.



I do! She ran through that door after she bit me!





Careful, Thea!  
She may still be  
holding a grudge!



She's not holding  
a grudge...



She's holding  
a clue!





Another  
clue????!?



Hmmm... Creepella,  
could you lead us  
to the stairs?



Oh, Thea! You  
are so clever!







The steps went all the way up to the castle's tallest tower. By the time we got there, Thea had already found the next clue...











TO THE LIBRARY!

Where are my books?

Uh...

Found it: "No swimming."



TO THE MOAT!

Are you keeping notes?

Found it!





To the music room!

Found it!



To the attic!

Found it!



To grandpa's  
disco boot closet!

Found it!



To the third door  
on the right!

Found it!







Then, as we were running past the dining room, we heard:

AWOO! Awoo! Awoo!  
AWOO! Awoo! Awoo!  
AWOO! Awoo! Awoo!  
AWOOOO! AWOOOOO!





You just can't wait to win that trip and go on a real adventure, can you, Gerry?



That trip was the last thing I wanted!  
The first thing I wanted was to get  
out of there before **MIDNIGHT!**  
But, I always try to be a polite mouse.



I'm... uh... just...  
uh... excited to  
find that... uh...  
coffin!



Well, don't worry! I promise  
Thea is holding the last clue!





You are all thinking of the stuff you are into. If you think about what Creepella likes, you'll get the answer:

A  
MUMMY!



You did it, Gerry! You solved the final clue!



I didn't mean to!

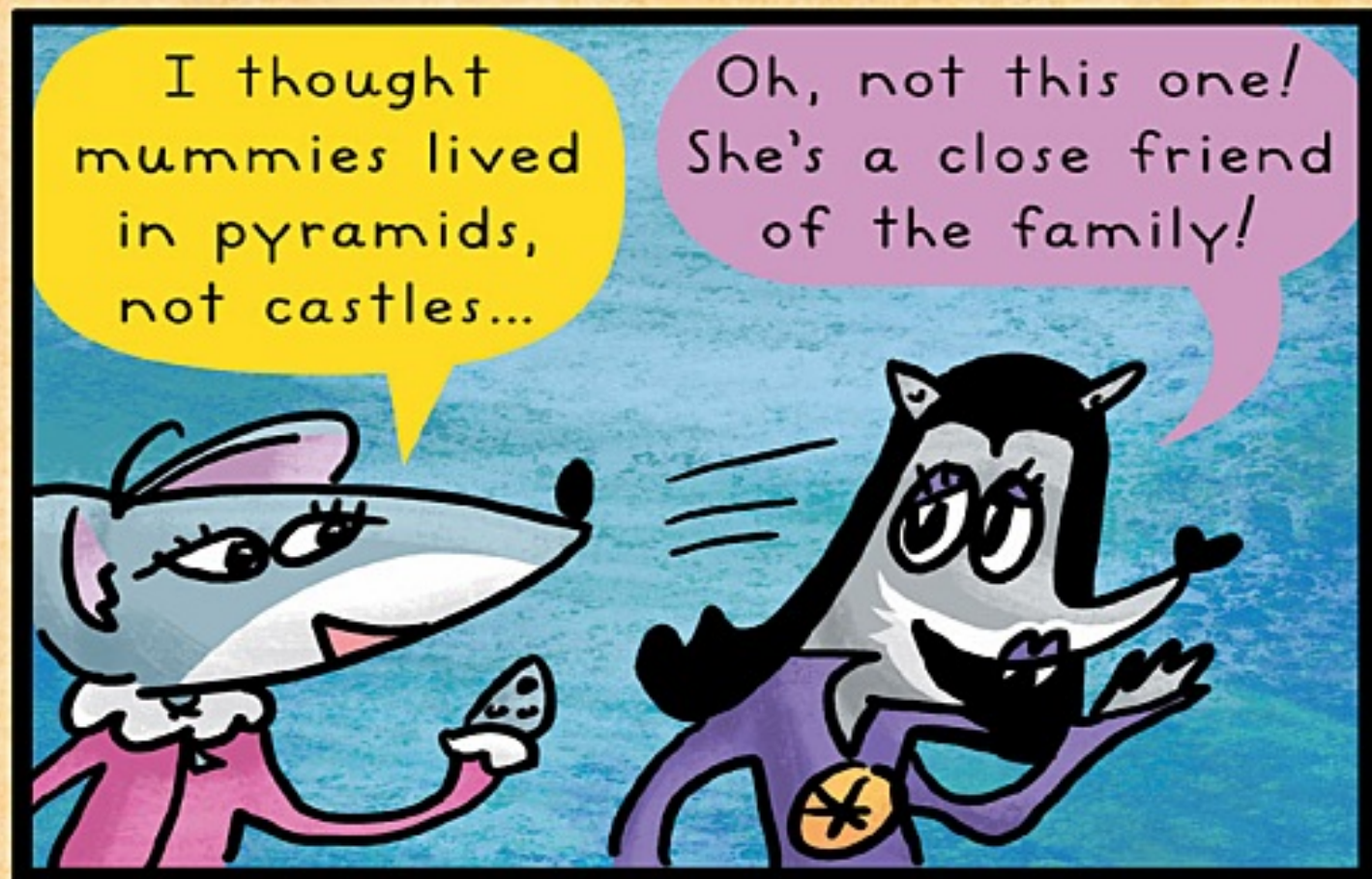




## CHAPTER TWENTY-ONE

# SUDDENLY, THE LIGHTS WENT OUT!!!

Creepella led us through the castle to the mummy's room...





As we were passing the kitchen,  
Boffo spoke up...

Please excuse me while I check  
on dessert...



Sloth snot  
sorbet must  
be chilled  
perfectly.

Dessert!?!

...Oh no... I have  
got to get out  
of here!



Of course,  
Boffo! The rest  
of you, follow  
me...





Suddenly, the lights  
went out!

OOF!

CRASH!

SMASH!

Ouch!

EEK!

STUB!

Hub!

Bub!

What?

Who?

Watch it!

Where?

CREEPY  
FOOTSTEPS

Why  
me!?



Trap somehow stepped on my tail thirteen times before Creepella lit a candle...

OW!  
OW!  
OW!  
OW!  
OW!  
OW!  
OW!  
OW!  
OW!  
OW!  
OW!  
OW!



I have to admit, the lights going out was a nice, **CREEPY** touch, Creepella!

But... I didn't plan this! And now I'm getting creeped out!





## CHAPTER TWENTY-TWO

# THE MUMMY'S CURSE

Creepella was still trying to explain that she didn't know why the lights were off, when...



WHAT THE TUT?



# BLUE CHEESE CRUMBLES!



It was the mummy!  
Quick, let's get to  
her room!





Oh, Creepella,  
I'm so sorry!  
Someone stole  
the golden  
coffin!



Grandpa and I were playing  
**MICECRAFT** ... then the  
lights went out.

By the time I  
lit a candle, the  
golden coffin  
was

**GONE!**





Wait... we're  
confused!

Stolen as part  
of the mystery  
game or...



REALLY  
STOLEN!





## CHAPTER TWENTY-THREE

# The Truth Is...

Snip + Snap, who had turned out the lights as a prank, turned them back on so we could look for the coffin.





This is all  
my fault!



Your  
fault,  
Grandpa?  
How?

I told a lie! I said the golden  
coffin was made of gold!

But...

...the truth is...  
it's just...  
really, really  
**OLD CHEESE!**





The coffin is priceless  
to our family, but

**WORTHLESS**

to anyone  
else...



But one of you must have  
believed it was real gold...

SO YOU  
STOLE  
IT!  
**HISSESS!**







But who? Who would do such an awful thing?



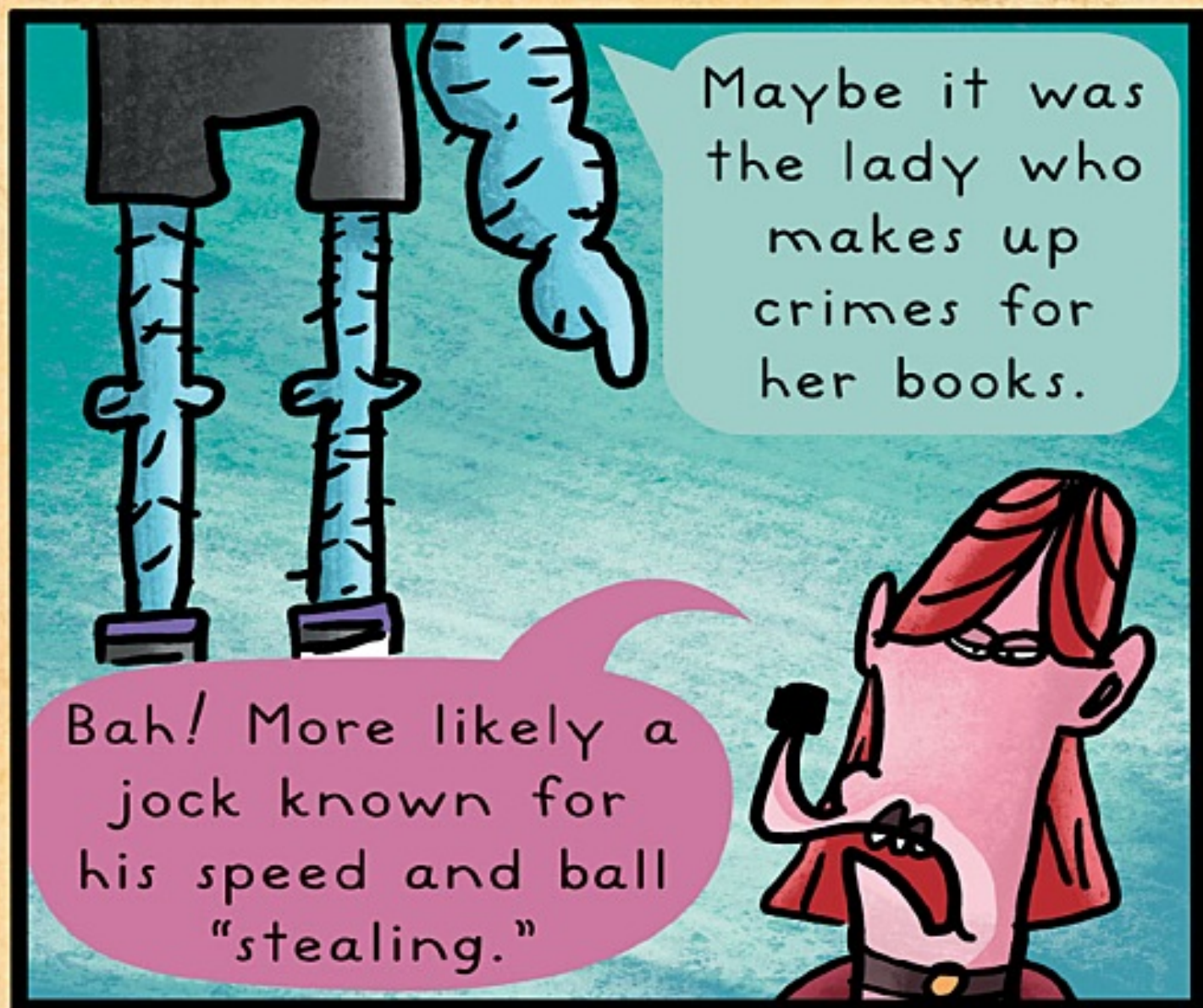
I bet it was Boffo! He wasn't really checking on dessert!



Yes, I was! But where were you? Doing one of your "pranks"?

Or should I say... **CRIMES!**







## CHAPTER TWENTY-FOUR

# A SLIMY DISCOVERY

Thea and I examined the scene of the slime—I mean, crime!



Notice anything?

Yes! Mummy socks smell almost as bad as Trap's!



Try to focus,  
Gerry Berry!  
We're looking  
for a clue!



Well, there's  
nothing here but  
socks, stink, and  
dessert!



Dessert?



Yeah, there's  
**PUTRID**  
purple slime all over.  
Boffo probably wants  
us to eat it for—

That's not dessert! That's  
a slime trail leading  
right out the door!!!





You think our  
dessert snuck out  
the door?

No, **BRIE\* BRAIN!**  
The **THIEF** snuck out  
the door!



\*Brie is a kind of cheese. "Brie brain"  
is not a nice thing to call your brother!

Hey!

Sorry, Gerry Berry!  
I'm just in a hurry to...

**FOLLOW  
THAT  
SLIME!**





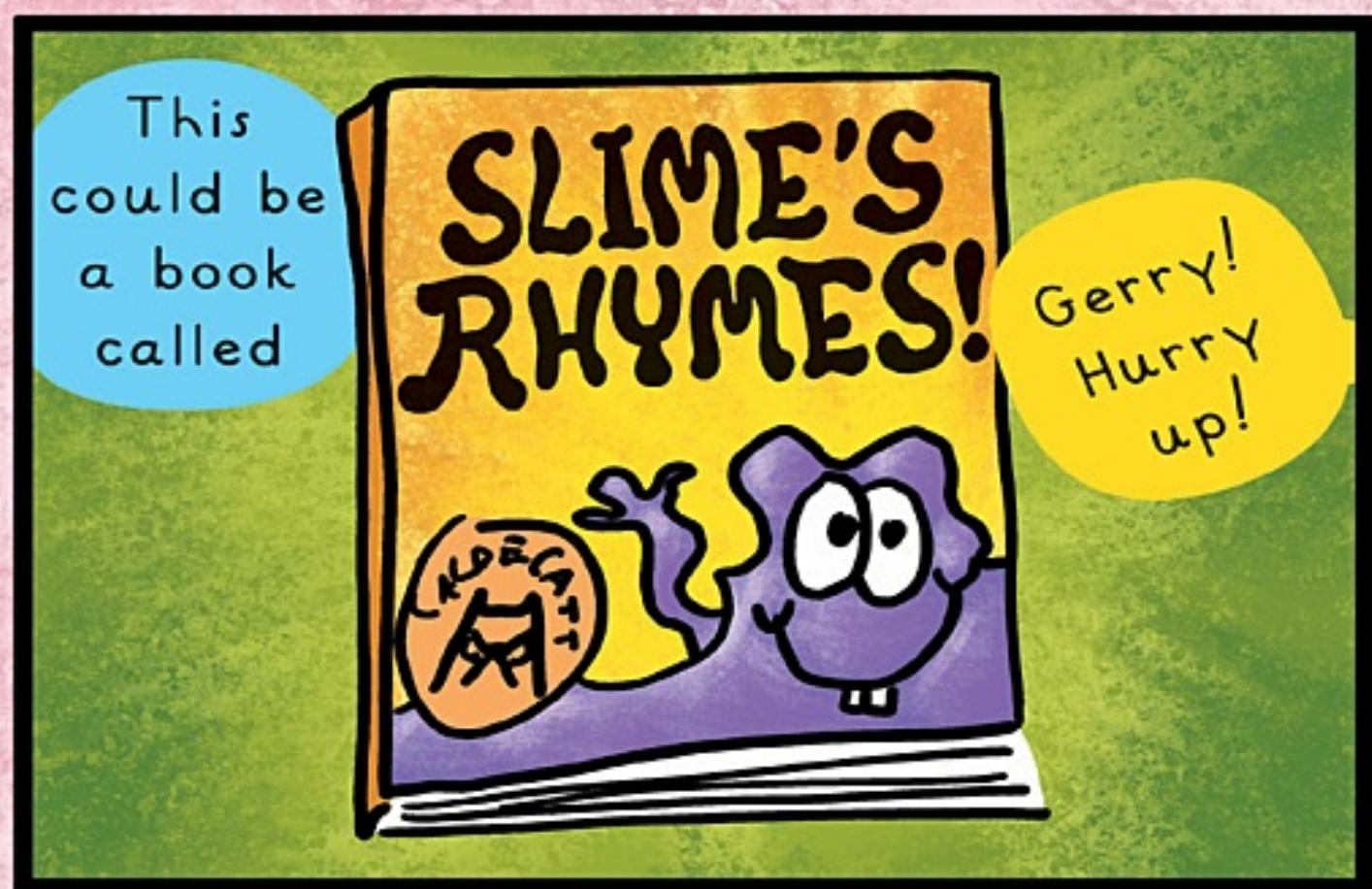
It goes across  
the floor and  
out the door



Down the stairs  
and under  
some  
chairs









Now, let's see...

What rhymes with  
"across the hall"?



**SMASH!**

Into a  
wall?

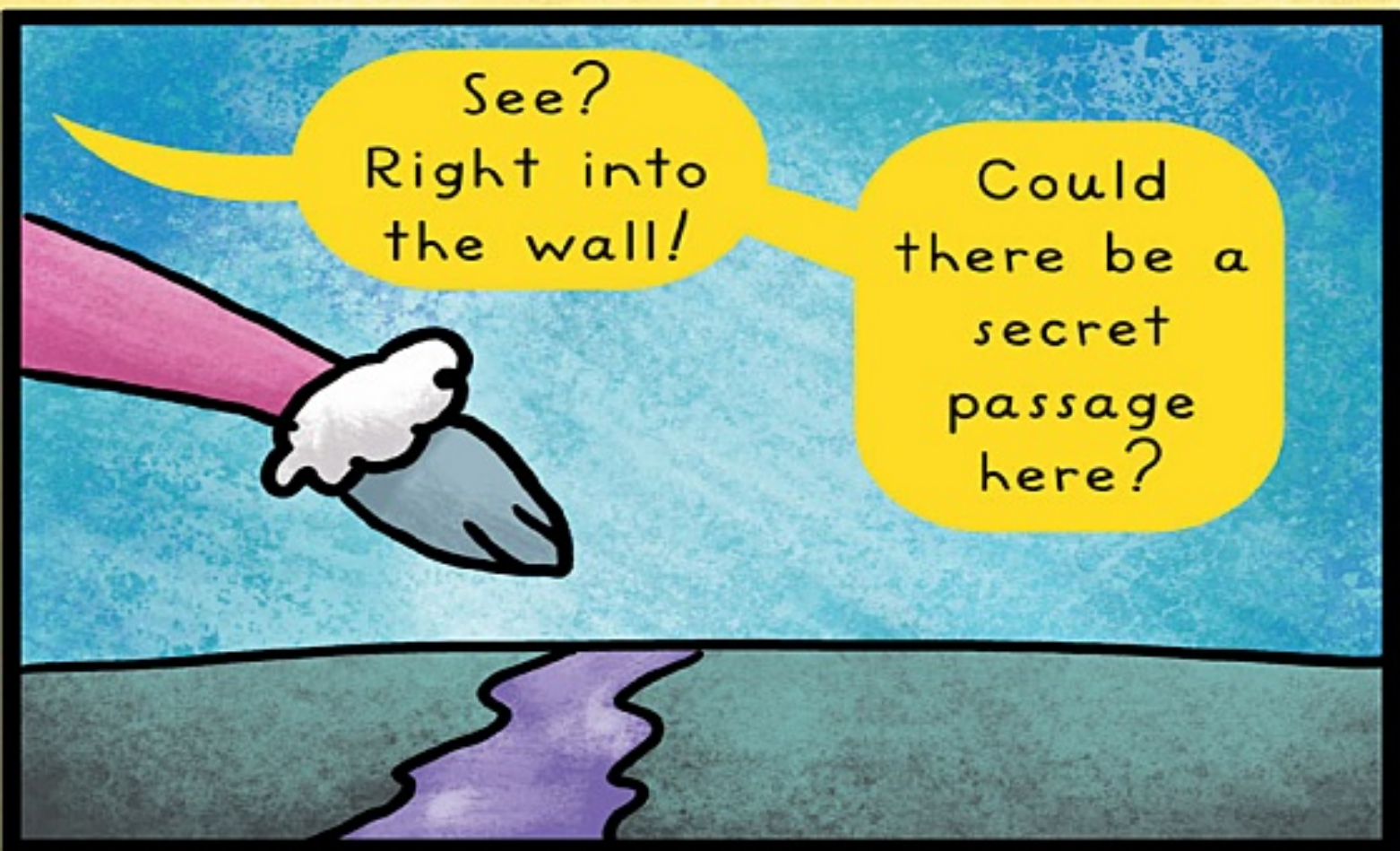




## CHAPTER TWENTY-FIVE

# A **SECRET** **SECRET** **PASSAGE!**

After I recovered my senses, we ran back to get the others and show them what we found!





I know all  
eighty-seven  
secret passages  
in this castle...



And none of  
them are  
near here!



Maybe it's a  
secret secret  
passage!



Everybody!  
Look for a  
secret switch,  
button, keyhole,  
or anything  
else unusual!





Hey, Thea! I found something unusual.

H'yuk!  
H'yuk!

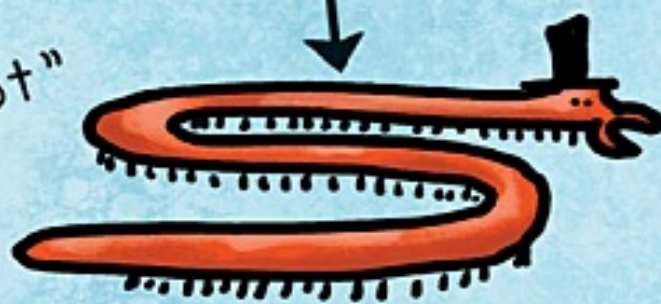


Actually, we found several unusual things...



"Zombie foot"  
scented  
candle

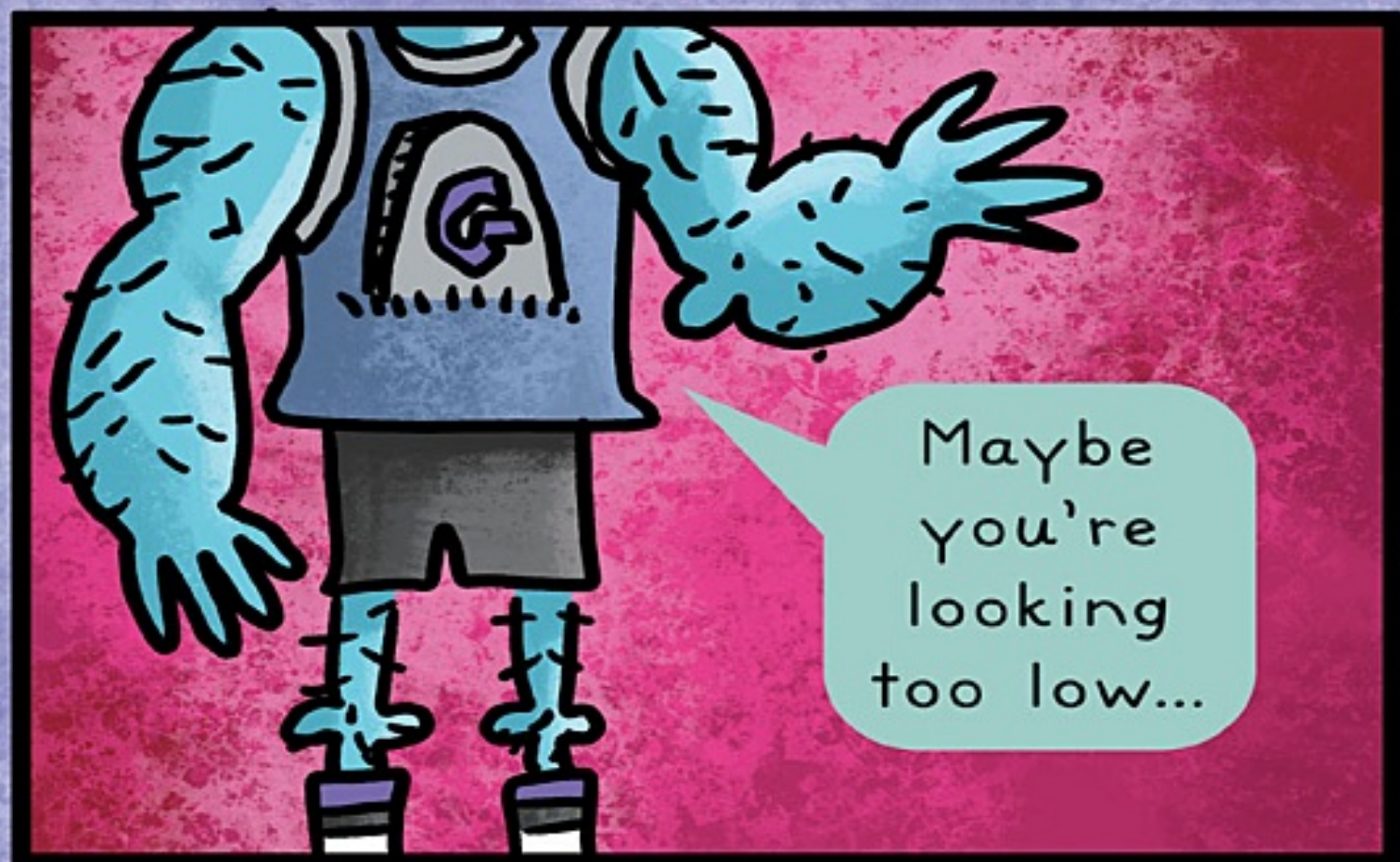
Centipede  
wearing a  
top hat



Actual  
zombie  
foot

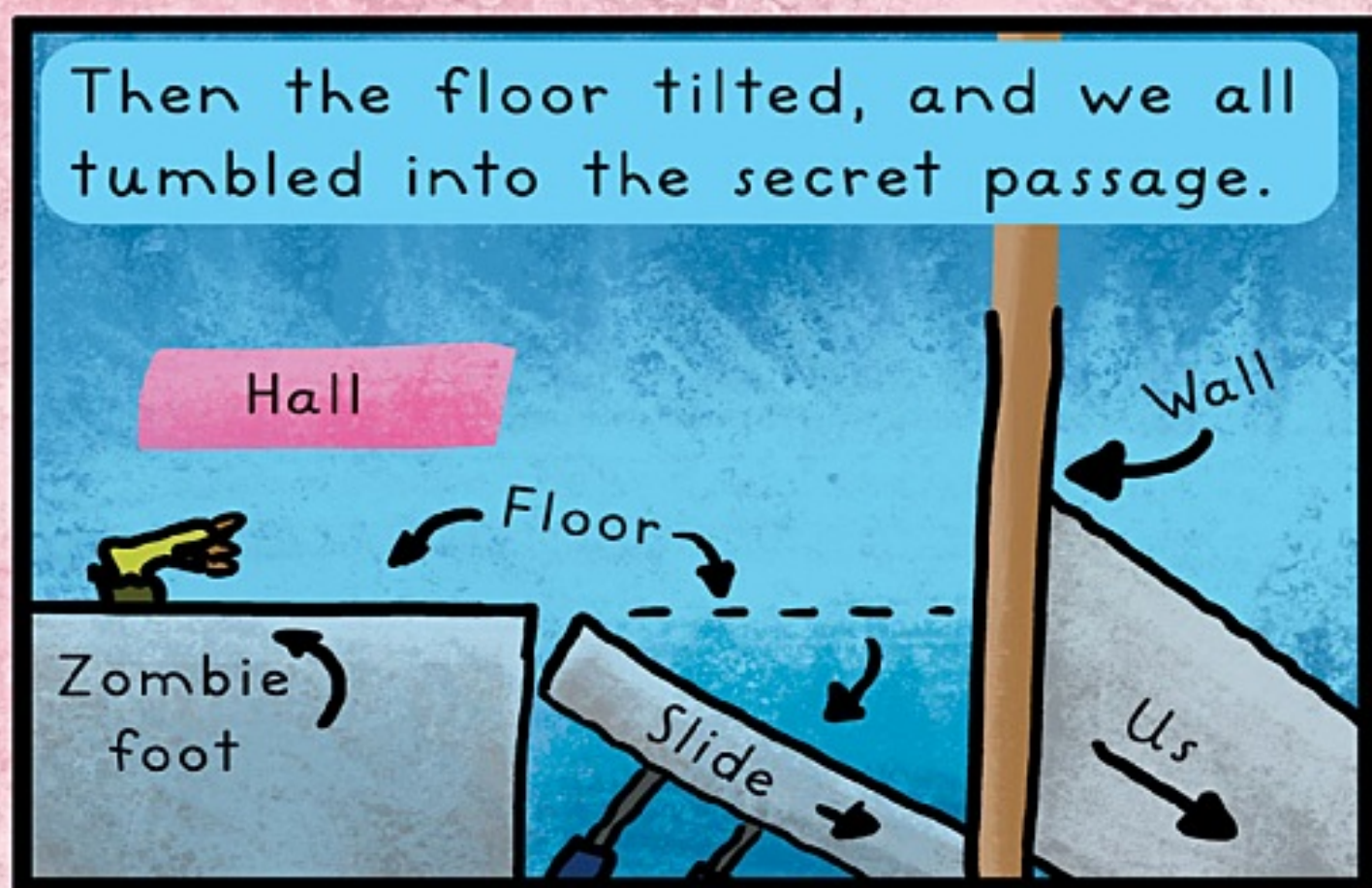
...but nothing that opened  
up a secret passage.







We heard a **RUMBLING** ...





# QUESO BLANCO!



\*Queso blanco is a kind of cheese sauce.



# A LOT OF WHAT'S

The slide ended in a cave  
flooded with slime!





How do we  
get out?



We don't! Not  
until we find  
that golden  
coffin!




Well, following the slime  
won't work anymore...  
There's slime everywhere!



And tunnels  
go in all  
directions!






We'll have  
to split up...




I'll go  
with you,  
Creepella!




Aw, you're all so  
sweet, but I think  
I'll go with  
Geronimo...



Grumble!



Why me?









Thanks, boys!  
I knew you  
couldn't be  
all bad!



Oh, Creepella,  
let's try this  
one!



Nice work, Snip.

Couldn't have  
done it without  
you, Snap!





I don't get it!  
Who would  
bring the  
coffin way  
down here?



Maybe it's  
not a "who."  
Maybe it's a  
"what."



**A LOT OF  
"WHATS"!**





# HARMLESS!

(UNTIL MIDNIGHT)

I was scared! I was terrified!  
I was ready to get my **TAIL** out  
of there! I took a step back...









Oh, Gerrykins! You're so brave  
to rush into the slug pit to  
save the coffin!



Remember...  
they're  
harmless!

(Until  
midnight.)





And then...

...from far, far above...

...through a mile of stone...

...from the castle...

...through the caves...

...came the sound I feared most...





And then came an  
**EVEN WORSE**  
sound...





The slugs began climbing on  
one another...  
...melting into one another...  
becoming...





# WHAT A DISGUSTING mouse!

Instead of five thousand slugs, I was now facing one slug that was five thousand times bigger!





I tried to climb out of the pit...



But it was too steep and slimy!



Just when I had given up hope...  
there was a voice in the darkness.



It was Trap! And... Bob? Somehow  
they had found another entrance to  
the pit! But to me, it was an **EXIT!**





...scooping up  
the coffin...



...making a  
MIGHTY LEAP  
for the exit!



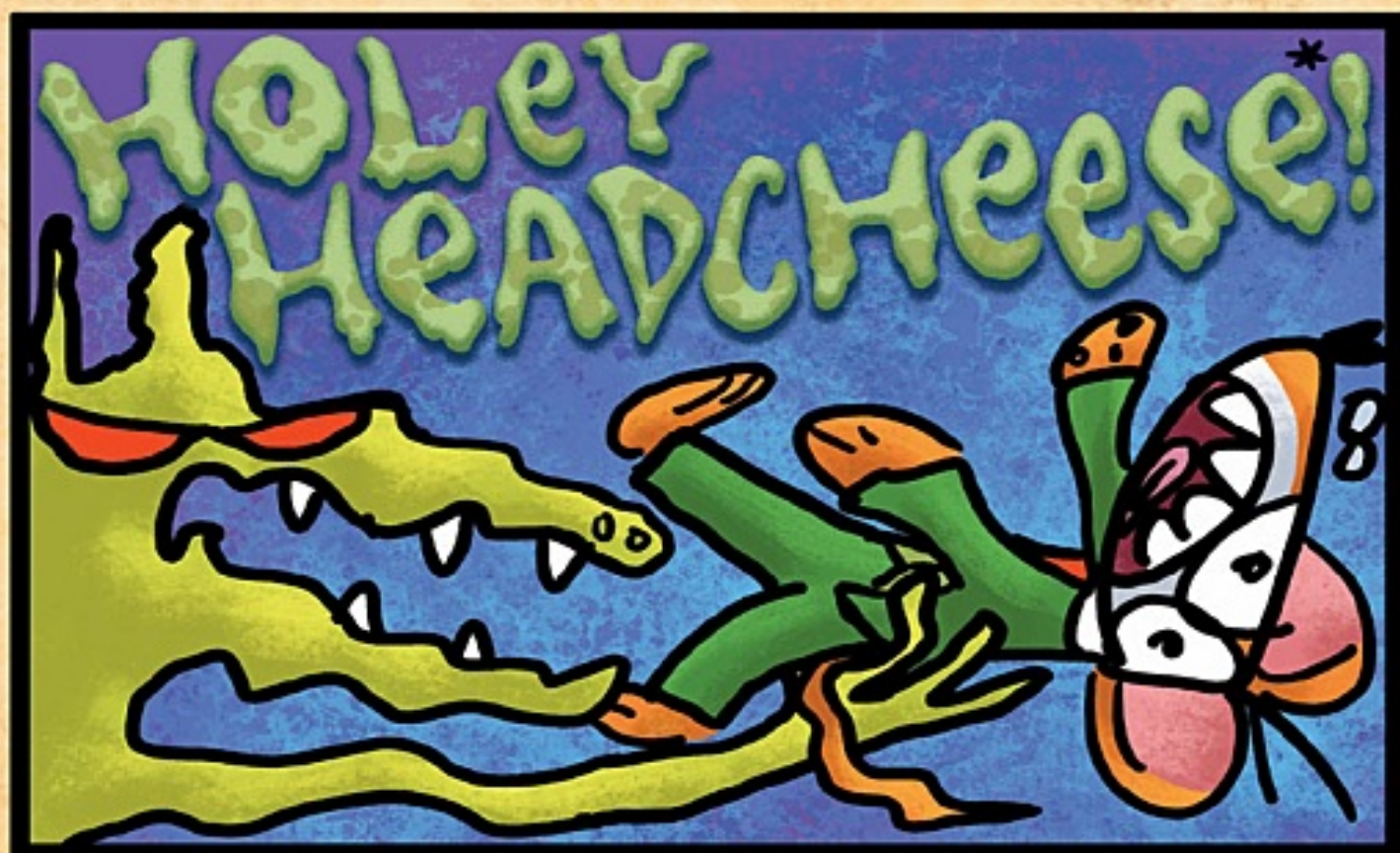
It was almost as  
good a jump as Perry  
Miscus could do!!!



# ALMOST!





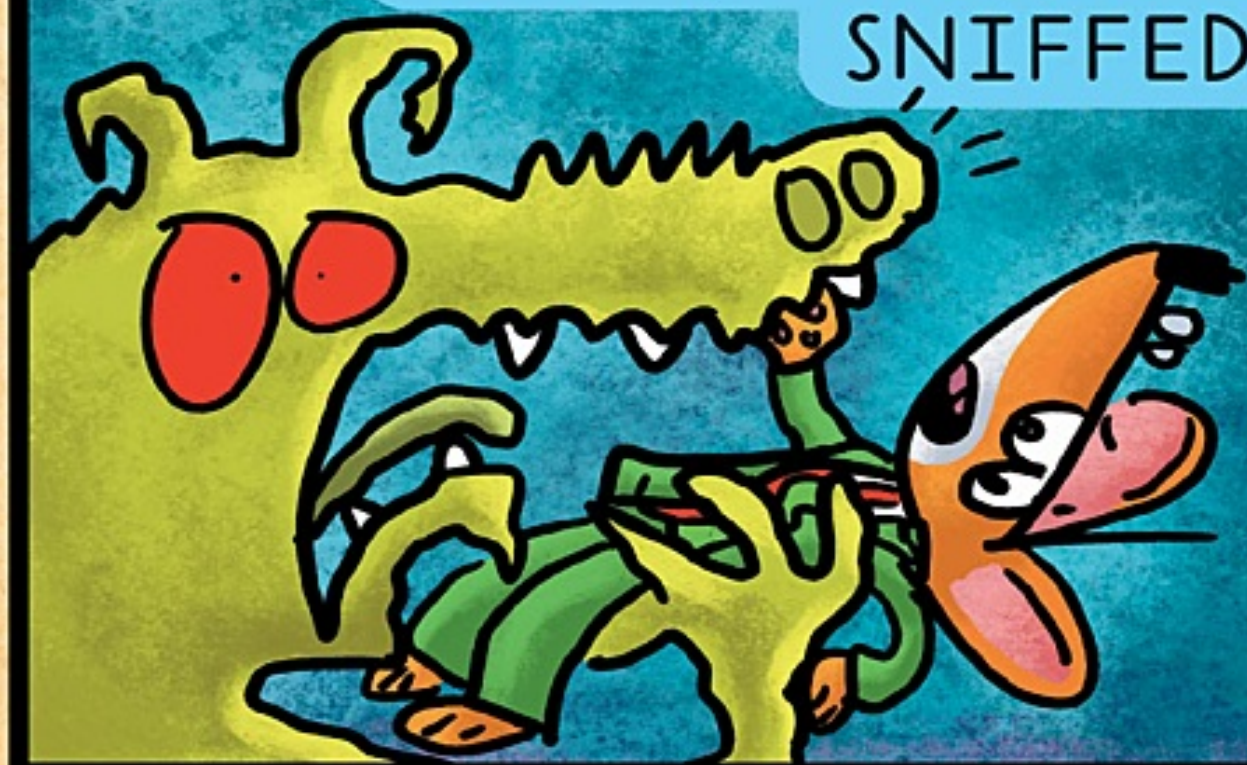


\*Headcheese is not a kind of cheese. It's actually something almost as gross as this wereslug!!!





Suddenly, it stopped and  
**SNIFFED...**



Instantly, it turned back into  
five thousand small slugs... who  
all slithered away, gagging...

NASTY!

YUK!

Blech!

Gagorama!

Dude,  
what was  
that stink?

I almost  
BARFED!

Glak!

Groan!

Grody to  
the max!

Luckily,  
I have  
a cold.

P.U.!

What a  
disgusting  
mouse!









I pulled out...  
Thea's uneaten  
mystery  
giblet!



Could it  
really smell  
that bad?



Yes.





## CHAPTER TWENTY-NINE

# SO SORRY, GERRYKINS!

I was having a beautiful dream!  
My novel was a bestseller!  
The title was...





WAKE  
UP,  
CHEESE  
BRAIN!

No, that's not  
the name of my  
novel! It's what  
Thea was yelling  
at me!

C'mon!  
Wake up!



He's awake!  
Oh, he was so  
brave!



Wuh?





Uh-huh...  
too bad he  
lost!



Lost?



Yeah, Cuz,  
remember when  
that thing  
grabbed you...



...and you  
let go of  
the golden  
coffin?





Well, Bob here  
caught it!

I'm  
surprisingly  
nimble.



So sorry,  
Gerrykins! But Bob gets to go  
on the Transratania  
adventure with me...





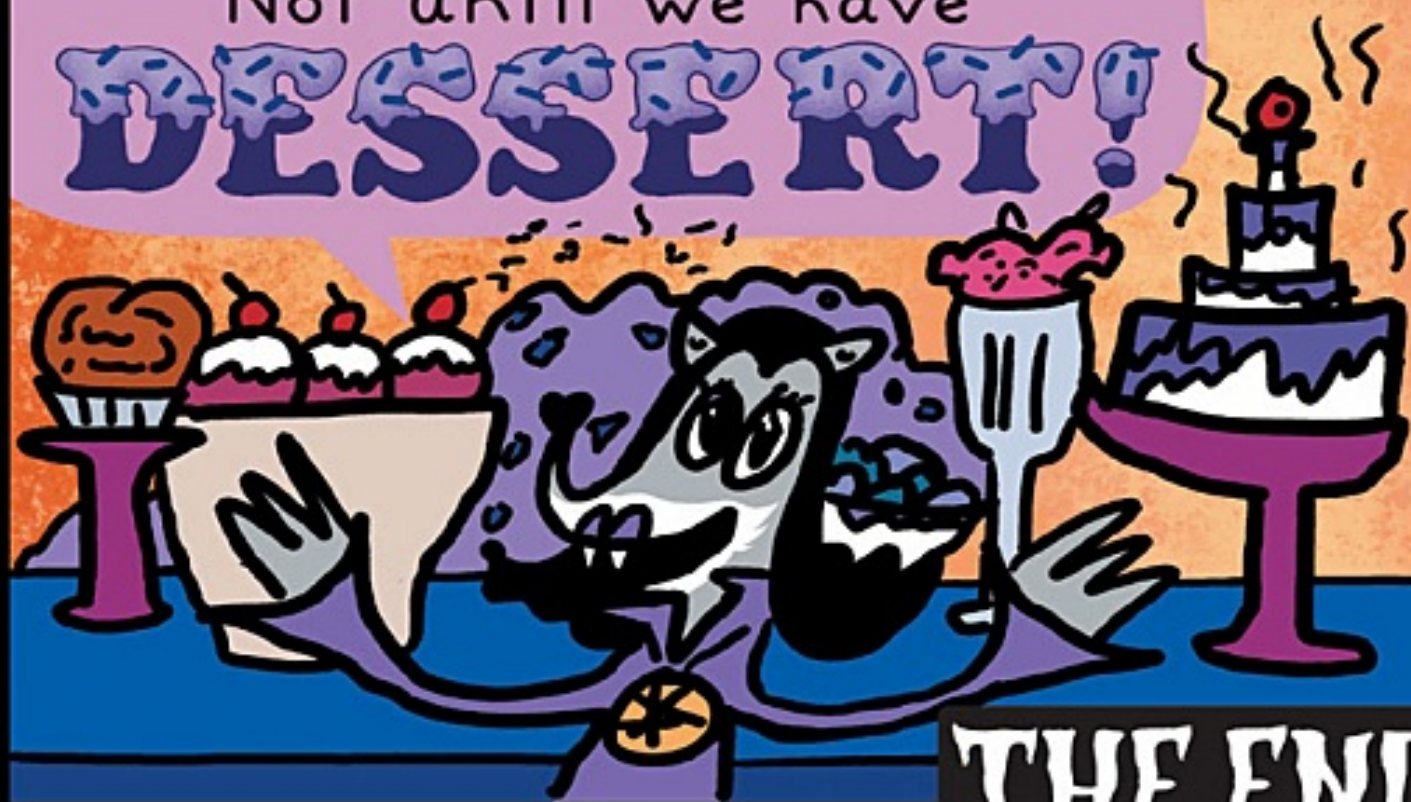
I'm so happy!

Uh... for Bob,  
I mean... since  
he loves... uh...  
danger and  
adventure...  
and uh...

Can I go  
home now?

Don't be silly, Gerrykins.  
Not until we have

**DESSERT!**



**THE END**



# EPILOGUE

One day, my assistant, Pinky Pick, came running into my office waving her phone.





Oh,  
**FABULOUS  
FETA!**

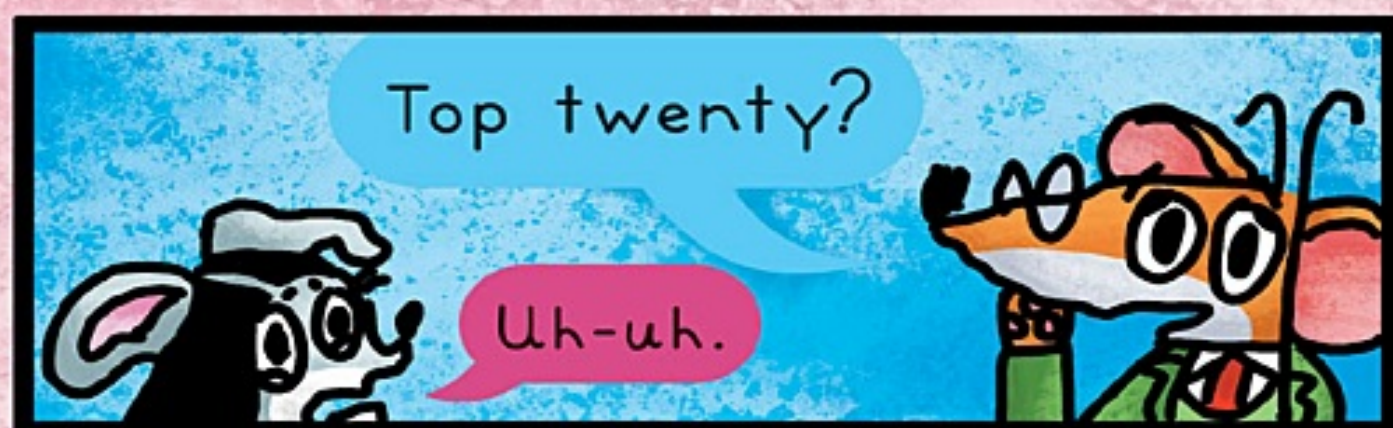
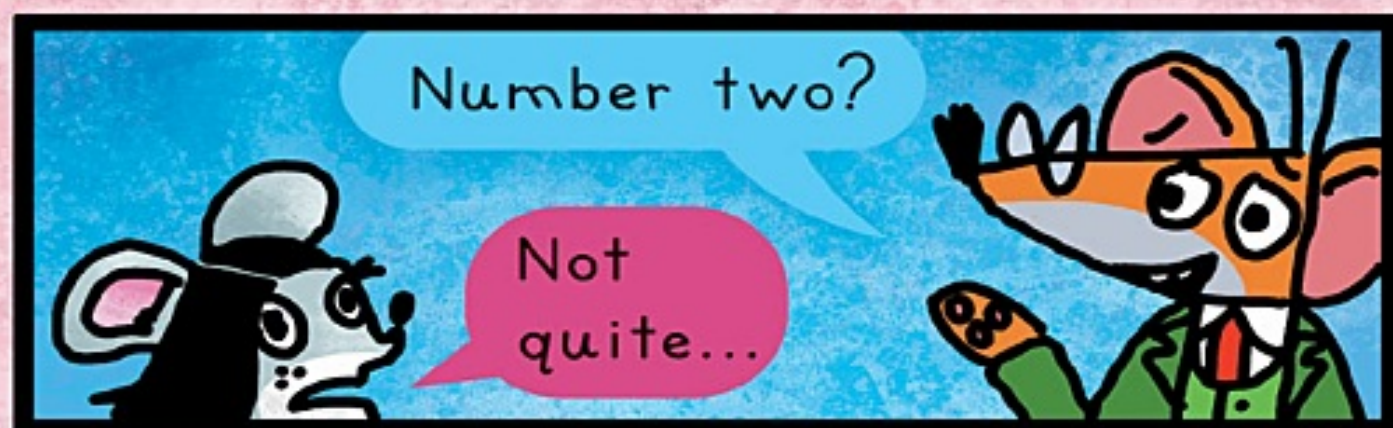
My new book is  
a bestseller!



Is it...  
number one?

Uh...  
not exactly.







2,147.

2,147??!?

I didn't even know the list went that high!

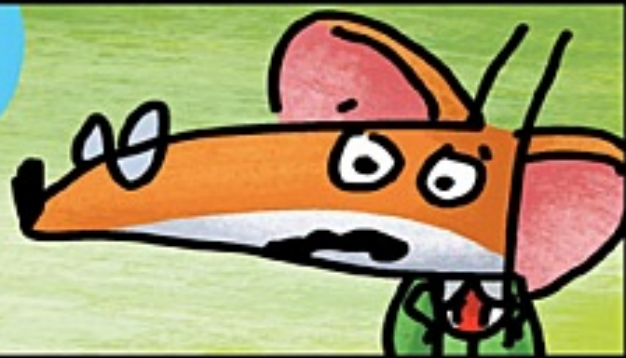
Yep! See?  
There you are,  
right after:  
*Ten More Ways  
to Stop Tail  
Fungus.*

*Bestsellers Cont.*

- 2140 - *Wee Weasel Learns an Important Lesson* by Brook Bibbles
- 2141 - *The Cheese-Free Diet* by Dr. Paw P. Whiskers
- 2142 - *Romulus Rodent and the Wizard's Cheese* by Brutus McBiter
- 2143 - *Scurry Like No One's Watching* by Tabida Tailtwirl
- 2144 - *Gnaw, Nibble, Love* by Vanessa Infesta
- 2145 - *Boris von Cacklefur's Joke Book* by Boris von Cacklefur
- 2146 - *Ten MORE Ways to Stop Tail Fungus* by Cheesemold Van Grawzer
- 2147 - *Slime's Rhymes* by Geronimo Stilton



What... er ...is ...  
uh... number one?



**MOLDY  
MOZZARELLA!**







# GREETINGS FROM TRANSRATANIA!



Dearest Gerry,

So sorry you're missing out!  
The tombs are lovely this  
time of year! And lucky Bob  
has already seen three vampires  
and a ghoul! Best of all,  
the Swamp Bat Festival  
begins next week!

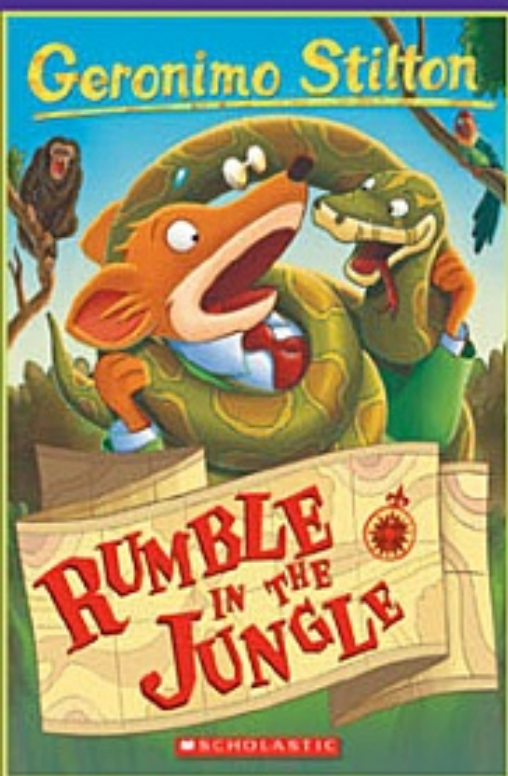
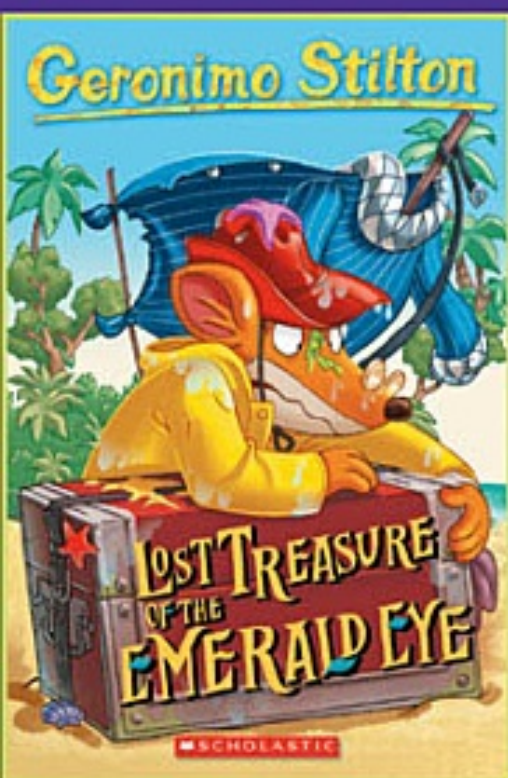
xoxo, CREEPELLA

Geronimo  
Stilton

RODENT'S GAZETTE  
NEW MOUSE CITY  
MOUSE ISLAND

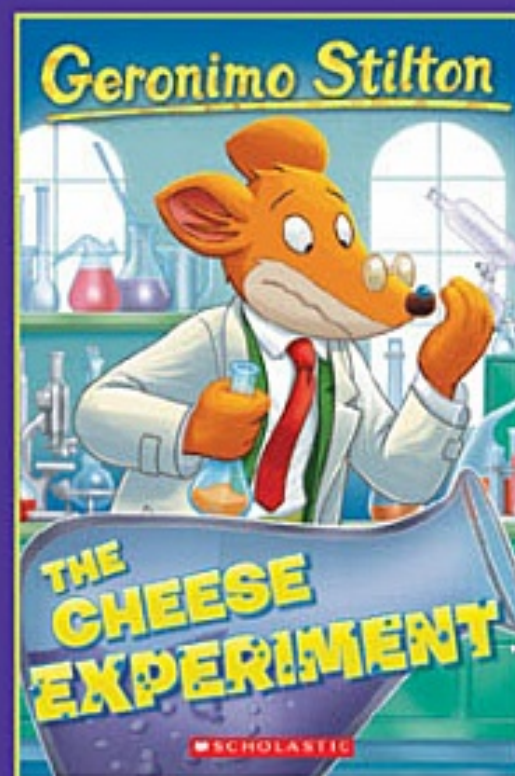
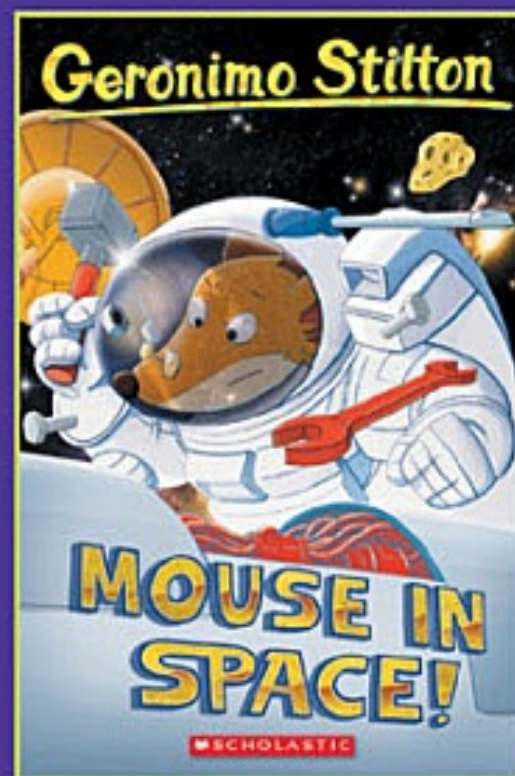


# DON'T MISS ANY ORIGINAL





# OF GERONIMO'S ADVENTURES!





# Geronimo Stilton

is an author and the editor-in-chief of *The Rodent's Gazette*, New Mouse City's most popular newspaper. He was awarded the Ratitzer Prize for his investigative journalism and the Anderson 2000 Prize for Personality of the Year. His books have been published all over the world. He loves to spend all his spare time with his family and friends.



**Elisabetta Dami** was born in Milan, Italy, and is the daughter of a book publisher. She loves adventures of all kinds, all over the world: She has piloted small planes and parachuted, climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, trekked in Nepal, run the New York City Marathon three times, and visited wildlife reservations in Africa where she had close encounters with elephants and gorillas . . . But she believes books are the greatest adventure, and this is why she created Geronimo Stilton!

**Tom Angleberger** is the author of lots of books about talking animals, talking plants, and even a piece of talking paper, namely Origami Yoda. Since middle school, he has drawn countless comics and cartoons but this is the first time he has drawn a whole graphic novel. He lives in the mountains of Virginia with his wife, Cece Bell, who has also drawn a graphic novel, *El Deafo*.

**Corey Barba** is a Los Angeles-based cartoonist, writer, and musician. As a kid, he loved monsters, cartoons, puppets, and mad scientists. As an adult, he combines all those things in his work every day. In addition to coloring books for Scholastic, he has worked for DreamWorks Animation, SpongeBob Comics, *MAD* magazine, and lots of other fun stuff!





Don't miss the  
next graphic novel by me,  
**Geronimo Stilton**  
Feta\* not miss it!



\*Feta is a type of cheese.











